

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1900.

No. 13

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BIRTHS.

On the 15th September, 1900, at 6, Makalee Terrace, Shanghai, the wife of FREDERICK DUMFRIES, of a son.

On the 15th September, 1900, at 54, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, the wife of R. E. TOEG, of a son.

On the 16th September, at Singapore, the wife of B. MORIER, of a daughter.

At 5, Museum Road, Shanghai, on the 17th September, 1900, the wife of ALFRED HILL, of a daughter.

On the 20th September, at "Merion," the Peak, the wife of A. W. WHITLOW, of a daughter.

At 39, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on the 22nd September, 1900, the wife of CHARLES WEDEMEYER, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At the English Church, Nagasaki, on Monday, the 17th September, 1900, ELLWOOD GARFIELD BABBITT, youngest son of Dr. Henry S. BABBITT, of Boston, Massachusetts, United States, to ANNIE, eldest daughter of Captain Robert Neill WALKER, of Nagasaki, Japan.

DEATHS.

On the 13th September, at 48-7, Waterloo Street, Singapore, DAVID DOMINIC, son of Mr. J. and Mrs. ALLAN, aged 16 years.

On the 15th September, 1900, at 32, North Soochow Road, Shanghai, EDITH MARJORIE, aged eight months, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. E. F. GEDYE, of Wuchang.

On the 16th September, at 1 a.m., at her residence, 82, Institution Hill, Singapore, SUSANNAH, wife of Archibald CAMPBELL.

ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The American mail of the 29th August arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, on the 26th Sept. (28 days); and the English mail of the 31st August arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Malta*, on the 27th Sept. (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week about the Chinese crisis will be found in the telegrams from our correspondents on p. 240.

News has been received in Shanghai of the murder of eleven Belgian missionaries in Mongolia by bandits.

Mr. R. J. Wilkinson leaves Penang for Singapore to take up the duties of second assistant Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Kinder, who is in charge of the North China Railway, estimates that it will require £700,000 to repair the line from Peking to Tientsin.

General Barry of the U.S. army is lying seriously ill at St. Bernard's Hospital, Nagasaki. He arrived from Taku a short time ago on an U.S. transport.

The final list of the Indian Famine Relief Fund in the Straits and Malaya shows a total collection amounting to about \$73,064. The Singapore subscriptions reached \$58,119. Remitted to India, the total amount represented 108,582 Rupees.

Considerable progress has been made in the construction of the Takao-Tainan Railway in Formosa, and it is expected that the line will be completed by the middle of next month. The opening ceremony will take place on November 3rd, the birthday of the Emperor of Japan.

The American authorities have commenced the construction of a dry dock system in the Philippines at Subig Bay, near Manila. Excavations have already been made for four docks, the largest being 600 feet long and 80 feet wide; the smaller docks are about 250 feet long and 30 feet wide.

The *Naval and Military Record* says:—Commodore F. Powell, who has been given the good service pension vacant by the promotion of Capt. Craigie to flag rank, is in command of the naval establishment at Hongkong, and is recognised throughout the service as an officer of great merit.

The report of the Straits Survey Department for last year shows that the fees received in Singapore exceeded the departmental outlay by over \$62,000. The report strongly urges a re-survey of Singapore island, owing to the inaccuracy of the old surveys. It is also pointed out that the Government does not possess a topographical map of the island of Singapore.

The death-blow has been given at Wuchow on the West River to any chance of the Inland water concession being carried out. The official who was to have initiated the preliminary measures was removed many months ago by the Governor of Kwangsi, at the instance of the *lekin* officials; and we now learn that the office which had been provided for his occupation has been sold, to be used either as an eating house or gambling-shop, or possibly as a combination of the two!

It will be remembered that the Japanese Government, at the outset of the Chinese trouble, made a disbursement of fifty million yen for the purposes of the China Expedition. It is stated that owing to the improvement of the transport system and a large quantity of spoils in the shape of rice and cereals, considerable saving had been effected. Roughly speaking, the expenditure has so far amounted to some eleven million yen, the whole of which however, has not yet been paid. There are several millions of yen in silver captured at Tientsin and Peking to set against this.

Mr. Byron Brennan, C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General, is expected in Shanghai about the 2nd proximo. Mr. Pelham Warren, who has been replacing Mr. Brennan during the latter's absence on leave, will remain at Shanghai for the present, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, this not being a convenient moment for "swapping horses."

News is reported from Corea of a society called the *Hwal-pin-tang*, a body who aim at fleecing the wealthy for the benefit of the poor. This society, says the *Nagasaki Press*, must prove a source of nuisance to the authorities, who, contrary to the usual leniency shown to evil doers, have taken vigorous steps to suppress it. No doubt the Boxer rising in China and the drastic measures taken by the Powers against them have produced on the Corean rulers a vivid sense of the importance of checking the unpleasant propaganda. It is reported that some of the ringleaders have been arrested, but it is not stated whether their dangerous career will be brought to an end. Another item of disquieting news is that Han Kin-sul, ex-Minister of State, and a few others have been arrested on suspicion of holding communication with political exiles in Japan.

On the 20th August last the American Association of China sent to Mr. Conger, the U. S. Minister at Peking, a telegram of hearty congratulations on the relief of Peking, expressing also their admiration for the gallant defence of the garrison and the bravery of the relievers. Mr. Conger has sent the following reply, dated Peking, 1st September:—Dear Friends,—It is comforting to know that during our terrible siege, our friends were thinking of us, and that everything was being done for our successful deliverance; for all of which we are profoundly grateful. Your hearty telegraphic congratulations gave us all great pleasure. Your message has been given general circulation and all bid me thank you every one most sincerely. We have had a hard time, but are all right now, and ready for the reconstruction and reformation that must come, if the work of half a century is not to go for naught. Emphasising my personal appreciation of your kind interest and cordial congratulation, I am, yours very sincerely, E. H. Conger.

According to the *N.-C. Daily News*, writes a correspondent long resident in China, Sir Ernest Satow, the Minister at Tokyo, is to change places with Sir Claude MacDonald and go to Peking. "It would be difficult to make a worse selection. Sir Ernest Satow, though personally popular, has never made any mark in Japan, and as a Minister has not gained the respect of the British residents. His only recommendation for the post is, in fact, that he has always been ready to coincide with the Mikado's Government. It may be advisable to remove from Peking the other; but Sir Claude MacDonald has always been handicapped by the British Foreign Office, who have ignored his warnings and advice, and undermined any influence he could have brought to bear on the Tsungli Yamen. He certainly deserved better treatment than to be sent to a nominally lower, though certainly more agreeable, post." Another report comes from London to the effect that "Mr. Byron Brennan, C.M.G., is coming out as Minister to China to relieve Sir Claude MacDonald, whose term of office soon expires." This report, of course, is incompatible with the other story; but some are inclined to give credence to it.

THE EMPEROR'S RESTORATION: A PRELIMINARY TO PEACE.

(Daily Press, 27th September.)

The most discouraging feature about the present unsatisfactory state of affairs in China is the persistency with which the Dowager Empress's name is introduced into Imperial Edicts and official despatches of every description. Neither we nor the Chinese people want or desire to be informed of the many qualities of this woman, odious alike to the Emperor's subjects and the world at large, and its constant occurrence is a sign well to be noted that the old heaven is still at work amongst the ignoble crowd who have possessed themselves of the Emperor. It is not to be believed that the young monarch, who showed his grasp of the needs of his country so well in 1898, should have descended into the feeble idiot who pens the continually recurring eulogies which appear from time to time in professedly Imperial Edicts on the virtues of this woman, who, with the assistance of a band of men as unscrupulous as herself, has assumed to represent the Throne; and it is certainly indicative of the small progress that has been made, and the ill-effect already of the internal intrigues of the Powers acting in a presumed "concert," that in the face of the clearest demonstration of the inability of Peking to resist any one of the Powers singly, it should, taking advantage of this discreditable separation of interests, be able with perfect impunity to snap its fingers at the whole of them. The very individual who has just proceeded to the North under the assumed title of Imperial Commissioner, bears no higher commission than the appointment of this intruding woman, and it seems strange that, in the absence of any credentials which could be accepted in the intercourse of nations, any Power could so far compromise its dignity as to condescend to accept in formal negotiations so irregular a proceeding. It is by no means the first time that Peking has attempted by a trick to foist on foreign powers an unauthorised individual; an attempt at a similar insult was made in the beginning of the negotiations which subsequently resulted in the Treaty of Tientsin, and it is a curious coincidence that two of the Powers, Russia and the United States, on that occasion, as in the present, were found backing up Peking in the insult. No nation in the world is more exacting in its intercourse with its neighbours in requiring the utmost punctiliousness in its diplomatic representatives than Russia, and it stands self-condemned by its own regulations in thus seeking to induce the other states to adopt an entirely irregular and unprecedented course. The quarrel in the North has, in fact, it is well to remember, not been one with China herself, nor even with the Empire or its nominal ruler. With the solitary exception of the Futai of Shansi, the creature Yü Hsien, we have nowhere been brought into hostile contact with any of the administrators of actual government. The Viceroys on the Yangtze have done yeoman's service in preserving the Empire from dropping to pieces, and have acted cordially with us. The Viceroy of the Shen-Kan has dared to obey his legitimate master rather than the intrusive clique who hold him in personal restraint. The Viceroy of the Min-Che has been almost equally independent, and yet it is calmly and insultingly proposed that we should accept as the representative of China in the most momentous crisis of her national existence, a pair of envoys whose only credentials are the sign manual of an Emperor given under actual and forcible

compulsion. The moment is one when we must needs deal with an Empire, not with a faction which for all purposes of government is actually without power, and which is openly ignored by sixteen out of the eighteen Provinces. With a strange sort of personal loyalty, not easy to reconcile with European ideas, the governors of the provinces in their allegiance to the Throne look to the mere individual. The Emperor, it seems, whether free and administering government with his own ministers about him, or a mere automaton held in durance vile by his captors, is an Emperor still, and his manual, though in the hands of another, and impressed without even the formality of consultation, is deemed from the fact that it was once held by Imperial and responsible hands, to have acquired a full charge of that divinity "which doth hedge a king." This, and not any lingering respect for the woman whose every action is *de facto* one of High Treason, is the mainspring of the request of the Viceroys that the person of the Dowager in the adjustment of punishments should be held inexpugnable. To accomplish a possible and binding pact under present conditions, we need, not the promises of the Dowager's nominees, who have no power nor authority and no responsibility, but the consent of the Emperor, given of his own freewill and without restraint, and in the presence of and with the assistance of his great Viceroys—a Durbar of the Empire, in fact. The emissaries of the Empress Dowager at the best are but the representatives of a faction, momentarily in possession of the person of the Emperor, but holding that person against his own wish, and in contempt of the public opinion of the Empire.

The argument, of course, implies in the first instance the complete restoration of the Emperor; and that, indeed, we take to be the first and most important condition before any negotiations can be entered on.

LOOTING AND ITS CON- COMITANTS.

(Daily Press, 24th September.)

In another column to-day we publish an interesting account from the pen of Mrs. JOHN INGLIS, of the American Presbyterian Mission, of the looting which went on in Peking during and after the siege of the Legations. With regard to the former "looting," it may be said that it was mainly proper and necessary confiscation of requisites for the lives of the besieged, and the manner in which silks and other generally unwarlike commodities were converted into aids for the defence calls for our highest admiration. Even our sympathy for the lady who feared that her discarded clothing might be seized by others for making into sandbags is tempered by our respect for the resourcefulness of the latter ladies. When, however, we come to the question of looting after the rescue of the beleaguered foreigners, we reach a very difficult question, which, as in the case of the sack of Tientsin native city, has aroused a certain amount of bitter feeling. In Tientsin and Shanghai, as we know from the local papers, quite a controversy has raged over the matter. The looting of a hostile town after its capture is in itself too frequent, in fact too regular, an occurrence to provoke much discussion, but there are some limits which are generally observed. At Tientsin a great complaint was that while some of the rescuing contingents were forbidden by their officers to plunder, a number of civilian non-combatants distinguished them by their avaricious rush to the spoil, most of which they were afterwards compelled to disgorge. Moreover,

as it was only a minority of the Allies who checked their men, the latter had a tangible grievance when they saw their fellows of other nations enriching themselves amply. The worst charge of the lot, however, was made against some of the savage soldiery who fought under the flag of one of the leading Powers: stories too unpleasant to repeat were current and no contradiction has been made. Exactly the same set of circumstances has arisen at Peking. Every allowance must be made for those who endured for long the horrors of the siege, and for the troops flushed with a great victory on behalf of their imprisoned compatriots; and if they seized freely on the abandoned property of the people who had at least sympathised with, if not assisted, the Boxers, and anti-foreign troops, we cannot say much. But the robberies committed by the army's following is on a different footing. We much regret to read what our informant has to say of certain newspaper correspondents, who, if the charges made against them can be fully substantiated, disgrace their profession. It is not creditable to the military authorities that they were unable to cope with such cases. With regard to the tales of Cossack brutality we fear that the scenes at Tientsin were once more repeated by these instruments of "civilisation." It will be remembered by our readers how great was the outcry throughout Europe and America against the Japanese for the massacre at Port Arthur and how the current reports were used as arguments to show that no white race could ever tolerate such allies as the Japanese. What will Japan's then industrious detractors say about the Cossacks now? If we can show the Chinese no better examples of our progress than such conduct as has accompanied the capture of these two Chinese cities, we are making an ill display indeed. This extermination of women and children appears to be still as much part of some nations' warfare as ever it was. We make much of the horrible barbarity of the Chinese to defenceless European women and children, but we look with apparent indifference on our troops fighting side by side with no less brutal savages, for whom no one can claim that they are only stirred to retaliation by the tales they have heard. In the final settlement, when the question of revenge on the murderers of European comes up, these considerations must not be forgotten. We cannot claim a higher standard from those on whom we look down as uncivilised than we expect our own friends to live up to. By all means let the prime instigators of the murders of the whites in China be awarded their due punishment, but let us hear no more of any sweeping revenge on the ignorant masses.

A Mincing Lane report on the outlook of the tea trade observes that it is not at all brilliant, and if the usual supply of China tea fails to reach the London market, Great Britain, Australasia and Canada will have to fly to the Ceylon and Indian markets to make up the deficiency and meet the yearly demand. There is only a short crop in Japan, and there is only about two months' consumption in Great Britain. The prices are already advancing, continues the report, and must still go higher when it is known there will be a shortage of China supplies. One of the unlooked-for results of the Boxer uprising and the misrule of the Chinese Government may be the loss to China of the balance of the tea trade, of which at one time it had the monopoly. Ceylon and India have already pushed China tea out of the British market, and have made themselves felt in Russia, Canada, the United States and other countries. Should it be forced into general use in the United States this season the China grower may finally lose his last stronghold.

THE FIRST ENTRY INTO PEKING.

(Daily Press, 25th September.)

Our contemporary, the *North-China Daily News*, comments on the story told to a representative of this paper by a special correspondent of a London daily paper and published by us on the 13th inst., and says that we "might have seen for ourselves the inconsistency of this account"—which was to the effect that the Russians had the honour of first entry into Peking. As a matter of fact, we gave the correspondent's statement entirely without comment. It agreed with some of the many contradictory stories which have been published about the capture of Peking, among which the task of discrimination is not even yet an easy one. It was therefore at least worthy of consideration, as we had no reason to doubt the *bona fides* of our informant (who, by the way, was not one of the special correspondents picked up on the spot, for he was on his first visit to China). The actual rescue of the Legations, the object of the relieving expedition, no one, as far as we know, has denied to have been effected by the British. The following summary of the attack on Peking, which our contemporary gives, will be found to corroborate all that our own correspondents told us of the affair:—

"The fact of the case is, that in the matter of the entry into Peking, the Russians overreached themselves. It was agreed among all the Commanders that Peking should not be attacked until the 15th of August, but the Russians, with the intention of stealing a march on their allies, started off on the 14th, followed by the Japanese, who stuck to them like leeches. They attacked the east gate of the Tartar City with great vigour and determination, drawing all the Chinese troops to its defence, the consequence of which was that the British, who had started off, followed by the Americans, as soon as they found what the Russians had done, and to whom the attack on the north-east gate of the Chinese City had been assigned, met with practically no opposition at all, and marched in quietly early on the afternoon of the 14th through the undefended water-gate of the dry canal that runs past the British Legation, and were in Peking some hours before the Japanese and Russians."

We are glad to have our hopes and our impressions about the relief of Peking thus confirmed.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

(Daily Press, 26th September.)

At the annual meeting of the Hongkong branch of the China Association, held at the City Hall on Monday, the great point brought out in the Chairman's interesting speech was the fact of that body's failure to carry out its programme. As Mr. FRANCIS remarked, the principal object for which the Association was formed is expressed in the first paragraph of the memorandum of association—or what passes for such—as follows:—"To represent, to express, and to give effect to the opinion of the British mercantile community in their political and commercial relations with the Chinese and Japanese." He added, and with truth, that the Association had very fairly represented and expressed that opinion on the main topics that had agitated it, but had altogether failed to give effect thereto. This, in his opinion, and in that of the energetic Hon. Secretary to the London branch, Mr. GUNDEY, was due to the Association having practically constituted itself, or suffered itself to become, a sort of intelligence

department or confidential adviser to the Foreign Office. This rôle was no doubt originally accepted by the London Branch in good faith, believing that the representations they would be able to make would always suffice to secure the support and action of the Foreign Office. The idea inspiring this arrangement probably was that the correct views of the mercantile community in the Far East would be clearly laid before the Foreign Secretary, that in return the objections to their proposals would be revealed to the Association, that some settlement, either by compromise or by persistent pressure in cases where the justice of a claim or proposal was undeniable, could be reached without the endless negotiations which usually attend such questions. But the Association had reckoned without the host. The Foreign Office were willing enough to receive information and to accept advice, but they were only prepared to act on the latter when it was quite convenient. Unfortunately delay is the favourite weapon of Chinese diplomacy, and the Foreign Office, always beset with intricate questions in all parts of the world, was only too ready to take a leaf out of the Celestial book and hang up a troublesome or knotty question for consideration at a more convenient season. This course, while entirely consistent with the traditions of the Department, and eminently satisfactory to the permanent staff, is calculated to irritate and exasperate those suffering loss by needless delay and worried by the uncertainty attending long drawn-out negotiations. The Association, as we have said, in the innocence and confidence of their hearts, had reposed fullest faith in the desire of the Foreign Office to uphold the national interests. But alas for this misplaced faith! Statesmen like Princes cannot be relied upon; the exigencies of the hour too often outweigh convictions of justice, sentiments of honour, and even considerations of patriotism. Such an arrangement as that tacitly agreed upon by the China Association and the Foreign Office could not, therefore, become permanent. The patience of members was sure to flicker and eventually die out under such conditions; and the Association now, at a rather late date, it is true, recognises that its methods have hitherto not been the soundest or the most expedient, however natural and reasonable they at first seemed to the inexperienced mind.

Impatient with the adherence of the China Association to its methods of dealing with the Foreign Office, a number of influential personages in London have formed the China League, which is apparently going to be worked on the lines of the Navy League. The latter have long since recognised the futility of appealing to the Admiralty alone; they go straight to the British public, and their little organ is always filled with statements, carefully backed up by statistics and facts, in which their case is convincingly put. It is not impossible that its persistent attacks upon Mr. Goschen's administration of the department have influenced that eminent Minister to announce his intention not to seek re-election. If so, the Navy League has not laboured in vain. Mr. Goschen, although one of the foremost statesmen of his time, an accomplished scholar, a fine speaker, and probably the greatest living financier, has not been a success at the Admiralty. It is almost ungracious to say so, having regard to Mr. Goschen's splendid services to the nation, his noble adherence to principles rather than to party, and his successful career at the Exchequer. But the fact remains, the right honourable gentleman has not

maintained the Navy at the point desired by the nation; he has not even spent the money voted for its augmentation; and justifies his inaction by asserting its efficiency. Naturally this is a question of opinion, but naval experts do not agree with the First Lord, and there is a suspicion that he could not divest himself of the perhaps natural reluctance of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer to be lavish with the sums voted. He has been weighed by the Navy League in the scales of prudence and found wanting; the League declare the nation's commerce is under-insured, and accuse the First Lord of imperilling this great interest. It is well, therefore, that Mr. Goschen has seen fit to retire from office. He has thereby saved his colleagues much tribulation and greatly improved the prospects of his party at the general election. His action was no doubt dictated by a patriotic desire to secure unanimity in the Unionist ranks, and he will have his reward. Here then, we may urge, is a concrete instance of the wisdom of the Navy League's tactics. They have appealed not to Caesar but to the people, and the voice of public opinion, echoed in the Press and on the Platform, has been instrumental in bringing about a resignation which should pave the way for all-important reforms and extensions at the Admiralty. By all means, therefore, let the China Association follow the methods, where possible of the Navy League. They will, of course, find it more difficult to arouse the public interest in the affairs of a distant corner of the world than to kindle the British imagination over the condition of England's first line of defence; but recent events have done much to lessen the task, for the Anglo-Saxon world are now to a great extent alive to the importance of their stake in Eastern Asia, the vast trade developed and the dangers now developing from Chinese treachery and foreign rivalry. To keep the Press and public well informed on every question bearing on British trade and industries in the Far East, and by their means to bring pressure to bear on the Foreign Office, seems to be the only certain way of securing the needful action by Her Majesty's Government.

THE P. W. D. AND DANGEROUS BUILDINGS.

(Daily Press, 28th September.)

The ways of officialdom in Hongkong are devious and past finding out. They have often formed a subject for serious meditation, but having generally no relation to cause or effect they go by unsolved. That august and responsible body, the Sanitary Board, is generally, of the Government institutions, the most amenable to reason, but its capacity in this respect is of course regulated by the size of the unofficial membership present at its meetings. Yesterday's meeting was a good example. Dr. HARTIGAN, whose questions are always to the point and for the public welfare, asked a question, which to a Board with anything less adamant than a Colonial official conscience, would be fraught with grave importance. His question referred to the latest collapse of houses, his object being to find if any one was officially responsible. The answer was of that evasive type which any conscientious officer with the interests of his Government at heart is schooled to give. Practically Dr. HARTIGAN was snubbed for his pains, not that the genial doctor is likely to be effected by that, because any gentleman with an epidermis of ordinary thickness could not long remain—unless as a silent member—on that Board. But the snubbing

—we trust the doctor will pardon the phrase—did not end there. Dr. HARTIGAN, in response to his question when first handed in, received a written reply from the secretary of the Sanitary Board to the effect that brevity of time before the meeting prevented its being discussed at yesterday's assembly, but it would be dealt with on October 11th. The latter part of the letter is worthy of quotation. It is thus:—"The President 'also directs me to say that he will be glad 'if you will omit the words 'or any other 'department' from your question. In 'conclusion I should like to point 'out that the stability of structures is 'a matter which does not concern the 'Sanitary Board, being regulated by the 'Building Ordinance which is administered 'by the Public Works Department.' Now, considering that the buildings which collapsed in Hollywood Road had been reported on before they fell by the *Sanitary Officers*, whether to the Sanitary Board or P. W. D. we know not, as being dangerous structures, the reply of the secretary practically places a premium on indifference in its officers. Not only is Dr. HARTIGAN ignored but officers of the Sanitary Department are instructed to ignore dangerous walls and to mind their own business. It infers the principle also that any ratepayer wishing to draw the attention of the exact Government department responsible for a dangerous building or a public nuisance must be persuaded to purchase a library of local ordinances, study the same, and if necessary consult his legal adviser in fixing the question of exact responsibility. The departmental system is delightful in its way, providing each and every department is competent in equipment and numbers to do its work unaided. But the most optimistic dreamer could scarce offer this as a tribute to the local Government departments. They all complain of being undermanned; some, it is fresh in our memory, made murmurings of being underpaid. Therefore, for two departments so closely allied in the cause of public health and safety as the P. W. D. and the Sanitary Department to take exceptions to mutual help in such a matter as the one before us, is cutting it very fine indeed. At home in a similar case such a course of inaction might produce a very unpleasant rider at a coroner's inquest. If the P. W. D. were warned in this last case, as they were we believe in other previous cases, by the Sanitary inspectors, and they ignored that warning, then the P. W. D. were guilty of a grave neglect of duty. The President of the Sanitary Board, who is the head of the P. W. D., may consider it a proper and fit thing as an official to evade Dr. HARTIGAN's point, but the public think otherwise. The collapse of buildings in Hongkong is becoming so frequent that the cry goes up as to how long it is to continue unchecked and uncontrolled. Fortunately over and above the palatial heights of the P. W. D., rests the shadow of H.E. the GOVERNOR, who may consider that public interests are best served by having the question of dangerous buildings promptly and effectively dealt with. The ignoring of serious reports made by any officials is not a procedure likely to find approval anywhere. The explanation of the President at the Sanitary Board to be given at the next meeting will therefore be awaited with interest.

The proposal to form a Coal Trust by the mine owners of Japan, as noticed in these columns a few days ago, has fallen through in consequence of the great opposition shown to the proposed details of the scheme by the principal owners at Moji.

THE ROYAL NAVAL CANTEEN.

(Daily Press, 22nd September.)

We have an appeal to make to our readers and trust it will not be made in vain. "Jack Tar" has always been a favourite with the British public, and since he proved himself so helpful at Ladysmith and in North China, he has established new claims to our gratitude. We speak now on behalf of the Royal Naval Canteen, which has just been opened at Wanchai. The building in which it is located was purchased and fitted up at a cost of about \$140,000. Of this sum some \$60,000 has been paid, and the rest is due to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The property is vested in the Commodore and the Hon. C. P. CHATER, C. M. G., and the debt is not perhaps an unmanageable one; but in their opinion it is rather too large for the institution, as the interest must prove a heavy drain on its earnings. This fact, as the Commodore stated at the opening ceremony, has been recognised by the Admiralty, who have liberally promised sum give the to of £1,000 sterling if the Club will bestir themselves and procure a like sum. The Commodore and Mr. CHATER are prepared to act as honorary treasurers if the friends of the institution will come forward and render assistance. Are the British community ready to help in this praiseworthy object? To be out of debt is to be out of danger, and to get a debt substantially reduced is an encouragement to new efforts to clear off the whole amount. The club do not and cannot expect to wipe off the \$80,000 in a day, but if they can obtain \$10,000 they will secure the Admiralty's donation, which together would make \$20,000. There have been several serious calls on the purses of the community this year, but we cannot doubt that those who were so ready to give the "Terribles" a hearty reception will be equally ready to help their comrades to ease their little load of debt.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 20th September, 8.50 p.m.

Li Hung-chang takes the Chihli Viceroy's seals to-morrow, the 21st inst., and starts directly for Peking, joining Prince Ching there.

Eight thousand veteran foreign-drilled and well-armed soldiers encamped at Yangchow are proceeding north to support Li Hung-chang under command of Chang Kao-yuan, who was General at Kiaochow when the Germans seized the place.

It is reported that the Chinese are obstructing the channel of the Yangtze below the Kiangyin Forts to hinder the Germans from going up the river.

SHANGHAI, 21st September, 9.2 p.m.

Count von Waldersee arrived to-day (Friday) and was received by guards of honour from the Indian, French, German, and Japanese troops, and the British and German volunteers.

On Thursday, the 20th instant, the Germans and Russians attacked the Peitang Forts. Their casualties were 300, but they succeeded in capturing the forts, and the city was burnt.

SHANGHAI, 22nd September, 9.38 p.m.

Defying the Foreign Powers, the Empress Dowager has appointed Prince Tuan President of the Grand Council, and Tung Fuhsiang generalissimo of the armies in North China.

The present Shanghai Taotai has been promoted, and is replaced at Shanghai by the intensely reactionary protégé of Kang-yi.

Count von Waldersee reviewed six thousand troops and volunteers here to-day, consisting of British, French, Germans, and Japanese. The review was most successful.

SHANGHAI, 24th September, 10.25 p.m.

Local officials report that Prince Tuan has issued a secret edict in the Emperor's name, in which it is stated that the Chinese Government is determined at all costs to continue the war against the foreign Powers.

SHANGHAI, 25th September, 7.55 p.m.

An Imperial Decree has been issued granting posthumous honours to Li Ping-heng, who committed suicide after the Tungchow affair.

The officials here are alarmed at the report that Count von Waldersee in an ultimatum threatens to stop all supplies from the Yangtze and despatch an allied force to Shansi unless the culprits are promptly punished.

The German ironclad squadron has gone to Taku to-day with the new German Minister to China.

SHANGHAI, 27th September, 8.52 p.m.

The Chinese expect that after the Germans and Russians have captured Lutai the Russians will proceed to Shanhaikuan, intending to secure the whole of the Northern Railway, i.e. from Taku to Shanhaikuan, which is pledged to British bondholders.

General Mei Kungyi, under orders from Governor Yuan Shikai, has expelled the Boxers from Shantung, and is now following them into Chihli.

Munitions of war are still being shipped northward by the Chinese from the Arsenal at Shanghai.

FURTHER CASUALTIES AT TUNGCHOW.

The following three telegrams, received on the 21st inst. from General Sir A. Gaselee, all dated 20th September, have kindly been forwarded to us from Government House:—

(1) My telegram of the 17th—following further deaths have occurred, R.W.F. 4,567 Corpl. Hughes, Privates 4,137 Wogan, 3,953 Cook, 4,661 Jones. 1st Chinese Regt., five, 7th Bengal Infantry, one. Captain Hill and remaining injured progressing favourably.

(2) 4,723 Private Hughes, R.W.F., dead, Captain Hill passed very bad night, condition precarious.

(3) Regret to report death this morning of Captain Hill; remaining injured doing well.

An American missionary, in his account to the *N.-C. Daily News* of the siege of the Peking Legations, tells an amusing story in connection with the defence of the Methodist chapel which was converted into a fort by the defenders. It was learnt later, he says, that the Boxers decided that they would need 10,000 faithful and tried men to capture this fort. "It was reported among the Chinese that the Boxers had seen a very large figure in black standing upon the cupola of the church, and although thousands of incantations had been made every evening just before dark, that same figure made its appearance upon the chapel. For this reason the taking of the fort had to be put off. The dreaded being seems to have been Mr. Gilbert Reid, who came to take his watch on the church tower at the same hour every evening. No wonder the Boxers thought it was some supernatural being who had dropped down, when they saw Gilbert Reid's 6 feet and 2 inches, in a long black coat, standing on the very pinnacle of the temple."

SUPREME COURT.

21st September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

THE CLAIM AGAINST A PAWN-SHOP.

The hearing of the case *Ho To v. the Shing Wa Pawn-shop*, 164, Wellington Street, was resumed. The plaintiff is a married woman residing at No 20, Gough Street, and claimed \$600 damages for alleged wrongful detention by the defendant of one case of gold leaf, three pairs of gold bangles alleged to have been pledged by the plaintiff with the defendant.

Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Ewens) for the defendant.

At the conclusion of the evidence Mr. Francis submitted that the entire question in the case for decision was on the examination of the two tickets, and with the pawnbroker's accounts. The facts, as far as the defence was concerned, were very simple. The goods in question had undoubtedly been pawned, an entry had been made in the pawnbroker's book, and a ticket had been issued at the time of pawning. With reference to the question arising as to the value, no evidence had been given. The defendants weighed the goods and estimated the value of them. The chain was described as an inferior gold chain, and on the ticket and in the books the weight was given as Tls. 7-3. This was probably a slip of some kind as the weight of the things pawned was Tls. 8-6½. The defendants weighed the goods and the plaintiff was bound by that weight. The latter gave no evidence as to the value of the gold. He admitted that they were pure gold. The defendants valued them at \$450, the plaintiff at \$480. There was evidence on his side as to the weight and value; there was none on the other side. The goods were undoubtedly pawned, and there was no question as to the identity of them. According to the evidence given on behalf of the plaintiff, it was his case that the ticket received from the defendant was taken direct to the woman Ho To. The boy said he had read the contents of the ticket to her, and a man said he had done so. The ticket was put into her immediate possession. That was their case. In packing up Ho To had gone from house to house. She packed her things in one house first, and then packed what she had in another. It was extremely probable that in her going to and fro in this manner, that she had lost or mislaid the pawnticket and that someone else got possession of it and went on the 29th to redeem the goods. On the evidence, the only evidence that was really valuable for the purpose, that of the half-chop, there could be no reasonable doubt that the ticket presented was the one that had been issued. Whichever of the tickets was false, there was a likeness between them in all respects, and all the chief points might have been imitated. Reproduction was always possible, and there were a dozen methods of producing the marks on the ticket, and the blocks to produce them could always be turned out. The one thing that could not be reproduced, and that they had no means of forging, was the other half of the chop, one half of the chop being put on the ticket, and the other half in the book. They could not be certain of the size of the half-chop in the book and therefore when forging the ticket, they could not be certain of the size of the chop to put on the ticket. As he understood, His Lordship had detected a difference in the characters on the two tickets. He said the only means a pawnbroker had of preventing a forgery was the identity of the two chops. In this case a pawnticket had been issued for valuable goods. The owner had admittedly lost the ticket. Somebody had found the ticket, and they were entitled to the goods as holding the proper ticket. Then there was the character of the parties who had told the tale. An extremely loose state of relationship existed between the plaintiff and another. Loose connections of that kind often lead to loose connections in business transactions. The plaintiff would certainly

do all she could do with safety to herself, and do all that any friends might suggest, to endeavour to get the goods back. What had been done was that, in a place like Hongkong, where every facility was within reach to obtain false tickets, and where hundreds of such tickets were in circulation, an attempt was made to present an exact imitation of the pawnbroker's ticket. The pawnbroker's manager said that if a former employee of the firm wished, he would have no difficulty in obtaining a blank form just before he left, and then using it. The one difficulty would be to imitate the half of the chop to put on the ticket. There would be no trouble in imitating the chop, as there would be scores in the hands of people in Hongkong. Mr. Slade had put in a ticket which his witness had admitted might belong to the shop. Or, if possible, the ticket might have passed for a valuable consideration into the hands of a third party, to whom it had been passed *bona fide*, but no question of that sort arose in the present case. There were no third parties interested here. It was a question of the honesty of the plaintiff, as it was a fact that she lost her ticket, and the goods were redeemed in consequence of her own carelessness. While in Canton, she discovered the loss. The delay in Canton and the delay in writing about her loss had afforded plenty of time for the preparation of the false ticket, and to set anybody to work to prepare the chops for the purpose of manufacturing the ticket. But apart from the question of forgery, the question His Lordship had to decide was which of the two documents was genuine and which a forgery. On the face of it the ticket presented was the genuine ticket, bearing the pawnshop's chops and in the handwriting of the manager, and corresponding in all respects with the entry in the book. The ticket presented on the other side did not correspond as far as the chops were concerned with the entry in the book. It was entirely denied that it was in the handwriting of anyone in the shop. He submitted that there could be no question as to which was the genuine chop. If the plaintiff had lost her ticket and someone else presented it they were bound to deliver to that person, and they were protected by the Ordinance in delivering the goods.

Mr. Slade submitted that his friend had not accurately put the question which was to be decided by His Lordship. The question was which of the two documents was issued by the pawnshop to the plaintiff. If the ticket which was issued was the one the plaintiff produced in Court then, even if the ticket did not correspond with the books, it might be the proper ticket, and the one that the plaintiff was entitled to receive the goods on. He said he could suggest three ways to account for the difference between the ticket and the entry in the books. In the first place it might be a fraud on the part of someone in the employ of the pawnshop. The witnesses brought up declared that the ticket passed through their hands only. There were several people there who had authority to write tickets, and he suggested that it was perfectly possible that someone could have made out a second ticket, substituted it for the genuine one, and kept the latter, innocently handing over the wrong ticket made out by someone behind his back together with the money, to Chan A Kan. The pawnbroker must suffer for the fraud practised by his servants. In the previous case of handing over the goods to the wrong party the shop suffered. There was another way to account for the ticket not corresponding. It came out in the examination that the chops were not on the book at the time of pawning. They were put on after the writing was finished. According to the witnesses a stock of tickets is kept. He suggested that the ticket that was issued had the wrong number on it. The ticket issued really corresponded with some other entry. The blank tickets were already chopped. The wrong chop might have been put on the wrong ticket. The third explanation as to how the fraud might have been committed was as follows: The ticket that had been produced was the genuine one, the other was a forgery presented at the shop on the 29th, and paid just as in the previous case the ticket was forged, and in order to make the forged ticket apparently genuine a new double page was written up and inserted in the book. The book, as admitted by one of the witnesses, has been rebound, leaves taken out and inserted again.

The witness said leaves from the 22nd January to the end of the book had been taken out. He subsequently altered that story. He said it had been done not at the Police Court as originally stated, but at his shop, and that only a few blank pages at the end of the book had been taken out. The two stories were absolutely contradictory. The other witness who was called, and who was present in the shop, absolutely denies that the book was unbound. That was, he said, a fair theory as to how the fraud might have been committed. He submitted that it had been done in one of the three ways, or perhaps in another way which he was not able to suggest, and done by the pawnbroker or his servants. A ticket which does not bear the characters, but bearing the other correct details throughout is produced by the plaintiff and she did not know that the goods had been redeemed by the someone *lsp.* How was she to find out the exact details on the ticket? She swears that she saw the ticket, some time in February. She had it in her possession. That being so it seemed impossible for her to have committed a forgery because she had not the requisite information in her possession. In the letter, she made serious mistakes. If the thing had not been redeemed it was doubtful whether the pawnshop would have paid the money. He said if His Lordship would examine the book, the leaves were loose next to the entry respecting the case, and tight and close together elsewhere. He said that the book had been unbound. The *bona fides* of the plaintiff had been shown and the ticket which she had produced, and it was admitted that the goods were hers.

His Lordship in giving his decision said the main point in the decision was which of two tickets was the one issued by the broker to the person who brought the goods to pawn on the evening of the 27th of January. One ticket is produced by the plaintiff and the other by the pawnshop. The ticket that was produced by the plaintiff was handed to her on the evening of the 27th January, and was by her shown to Ho Yung Shan and was put in a small box inside a larger box. The next day she went to Canton. While there she discovered the loss about the 16th of March. She searched vigorously till about the 18th and then she wrote a friend to inform the broker of her loss. Ho Yung Shan communicated with a solicitor and he wrote to the pawnbroker, and the reply was that the goods had been redeemed on the 29th January. That reply was forwarded to the plaintiff at Canton, and after receiving the reply, she found her pawnticket. The impression made on his mind and the probable impression on a jury would be that it was a very curious story. A person loses a ticket, writes to Hongkong about it, and after she has received notice that the goods have been redeemed she suddenly finds the ticket. His Lordship did not say she had done wrong, as far as she was concerned she found the ticket, or it might have been sent out to her in the letter. He was not accusing her of fraud, but the story was suspicious. He pointed out that the way she had discovered the ticket would probably weigh with a jury. With regard to the genuineness of the tickets, there was evidence on both sides. The plaintiff produced a ticket she could not read, and did not know the contents of the ticket except by being told. The boy identified the ticket by the order of the articles, and by a shade of colour, as does Ho Yuk Shan. The manager testified to the handwriting, also the chop compared with his book. The ticket produced by the plaintiff does not agree in this manner with his book. It appeared to him that the evidence tendered on behalf of the pawnbroker was far weightier than that of the plaintiff. The latter is practically depending on memory, and most of it could not be supported. Judgment was accordingly entered for the defendant, with costs.

The Formosan authorities have decided to grant a subsidy to a sugar-refining company promoted by several well-known capitalists, including the Mori and Mitsui families. During the current fiscal year 12,000 yen will be contributed to the concern, and in the next session of the Diets Bill will be introduced providing for the granting of an annual subsidy of 30,000 yen for five consecutive years.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On the 27th inst. a meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. The President (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Vice-president (Dr. Bell, Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer), Major Brown, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, Mr. Chan A Fook, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

THE RECENT COLLAPSE IN HOLLYWOOD ROAD. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed,

Dr. HARTIGAN moved the suspension of the Standing Orders for the day.

Mr. OSBORNE seconded, and the motion was carried.

Dr. HARTIGAN—My object in asking for the suspension of the Standing Orders is to bring forward a question of which I gave notice yesterday. I have been on the Board many years now, and certainly 24 hours' notice of a question has been deemed sufficient before. I received a letter at 12 o'clock to-day saying that the President refused to receive my question, and I wish now to bring my question forward.

Dr. CLARK—He is entitled to bring it forward now as the Standing Orders have been suspended.

The PRESIDENT observed that according to Rule No. 11 two clear days' notice, or 48 hours, was required.

Dr. HARTIGAN said that this referred to a motion. He took it that a question only required 24 hours' notice.

The PRESIDENT said it was open for the question to be put if the members wished it, as he found no rule against it.

Dr. HARTIGAN—I take it as a right and not as anything else. The Standing Orders have been suspended and I have a right to put any question I like. The Secretary has got my question, and I would ask him to read it.

The Secretary read the question as follows:—

Has any communication or report been made by the Sanitary Department to the Government, or to any Government Department on the condition of any of the houses which have lately collapsed in the Central District?

If so what reply has been received, or what action has been taken in the matter?

The PRESIDENT said that with regard to the first part of the question no communication or report had been made by the Sanitary Board to the Government or to any Government Department, and the answer to the second part was "No."

Dr. HARTIGAN said his reason for bringing the matter forward was that people who spoke about the collapse had made the remark that reports had been made by the Board's officers that such and such buildings were in a dangerous state and that no notice had been taken of the reports.

Dr. CLARK explained that when the Inspectors discovered any walls in a dangerous condition they reported the matter and that report was forwarded to the Public Works Department. Dr. Hartigan's question related to certain houses which had fallen, but he was not in a position to state whether these particular houses had been reported upon. In some cases the P. W. D. had no power of action, but in other cases the Secretary had called the attention of the owners to the dangerous wall and it had been reconstructed.

The PRESIDENT—Is that all, Dr. Hartigan?

Dr. HARTIGAN—That is all. I have got the information I require.

THE DAIRY BYE-LAWS.

The Dairy Bye-laws as amended were submitted and approved.

THE INSPECTOR'S QUARTERS AT THE CATTLE DEPOTS.

The sub-committee (Dr. Clark, Dr. Hartigan, and Mr. McKie) on the Inspector's quarters at the Cattle Depots, submitted the following:—

"We have the honour to report that we have inspected the present quarters of the Inspector in charge of the Animal Depots at Kennedy town, and are of the opinion that they are at present quite unfit for human habitation, and will continue to be so until the adjacent nullahs have been drained, and the swamps properly drained. We have inspected the neighbouring

portions of Crown Land and recommend that a two-storied dwelling should be erected to the North or North-West of Inland Lot 1082 and fronting the sea. In order to do this it may be necessary to reclaim a small area of the foreshore which is here sandy and shelving, so as to avoid too great proximity of the house to the pathway leading to Kennedytown Hospital, but we understand that this will not involve any great expense. We also recommend that, pending the completion of these new quarters, the Inspector shall not be required to reside in the present building, but shall be granted the usual house allowance in lieu thereof."

Dr. Bell minuted:—"I presume this will come up for discussion later on."

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by Dr. BELL, the report was adopted and the Secretary was instructed to forward it to the Government for consideration.

RINDERPEST AT THE OLD TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

The following letter, dated September 17th, from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon (Mr. Ladds) was read:—

"I have the honour to report for the information of the Board that rinderpest has broken out amongst 22 rejected cattle which were housed in the depots when the disease broke out amongst the military cattle. At the time when the military cattle were attacked these animals showed no signs of the disease, but as a precautionary measure, having been in contact with diseased animals, they were at once isolated and placed in the old Tung Wah Mortuary buildings. As none of these animals are fit to be slaughtered for food, and as it would be unwise to allow them to be moved elsewhere, I suggest that they be allowed to remain where they are until such time as the disease may have run its course. Those which die will be buried, and those which recover can then be taken out of the colony. I am pleased to be able to state that the Government depots are now free from the disease. 98 of the military cattle which showed no signs of disease have been slaughtered for food, 23 died, and four are recovering."

Dr. Bell minuted:—"Agree with Colonial Veterinary Surgeon."

The PRESIDENT observed that a report had come in that day from the Veterinary Surgeon stating that the outbreak had been suppressed after a loss of 12 of the animals mentioned.

THE MARKET ACCOMMODATION AT KOWLOON.

Mr. OSBORNE proposed the following motion, of which he had given notice:—"That in view of the increasing population of Kowloon the Government be asked to provide a market on a convenient site for residents of that locality. He said—In a community such as ours, when it is decreed by Government that fresh provisions may be sold nowhere but in markets, the people have a right to expect that sufficient market accommodation should be provided for the purpose, and considering that the markets of this Colony are a handsome investment, one marvels why it is they are not supplied wherever they will pay. They are, however, insufficient in number and with the exception of the Central are poor in quality and too small for modern requirements. Ill-adapted, ill-ventilated and dark they stand as a monument of stagnation and decay—an open sore upon the otherwise healthy constitution of this progressive Colony. In Kowloon, or rather I should say Tsimsatsui, for Hung Hom and Yaumati have three markets, there is a rapidly increasing population and a healthy expansion which threatens to rival this side of the Harbour, and if we would learn a lesson from the past we should, before every available mile of ground is absorbed by the builder, provide a market there sufficient for present needs and capable of extension in the future. Every ounce of fish and every pound of meat consumed by Europeans at Kowloon is brought there from Hongkong, and seeing that the population is large enough to support a market of its own, the waste of time, labour and money involved in crossing the Harbour should cease. From a Sanitary point of view, market accommodation should be of the best type and in excess of rather than behind the requirements and it is therefore to be hoped that Government will find a way to provide a market for Kowloon

worthy in every respect of the growing importance of that locality.

Dr. CLARK, in seconding, said he thought Mr. Osborne's reasons sufficiently pungent to warrant the Board in making such a recommendation to the Government. Unless the Government took action at an early date the probability was that they would be in the same position that they had been in on many previous occasions—they would be informed that they could not get what they wanted because the Government had no longer got the land in its hands.

The PRESIDENT, in supporting, referred to the splendid return obtained by the Government from the markets, the market recently put up at Tai Kok Tsui bringing in a return of 30 per cent., which even in Hongkong would be considered a handsome return for the money spent.

The motion was carried.

THE KOWLOON WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. OSBORNE proposed the following motion, of which he had given notice:—"That the Government be asked to state what steps are being taken to provide water for Kowloon during the approaching dry season." He said—To provide a plentiful and continuous service of pure fresh water is a paramount duty of every Municipal Authority. To fail in such a duty is to fail in the rudiments of Municipal government and to risk being charged with incapacity or neglect. The Hongkong Government in the failure of the Kowloon Water service cannot escape conviction on one or other of these counts, because whatever may be the reasons, whatever excuses may be put forward, the discreditable fact remains that from the day of inauguration it has gone from bad to worse, until at the moment, for all practical purposes, it has ceased to exist—when there should be plenty there is famine—when there should be contentment there is dissatisfaction and disgust. This state of affairs cannot be attributed to failure in the supply, because not only are the existing sources sufficient, but there is water in abundance running to waste throughout the year behind the Kowloon hills, and it needs only energy and moderate engineering skill to tap these bountiful supplies. The cause must therefore, be sought elsewhere, and it lies, I understand, in some mechanical difficulty connected with the pumping machinery, and in the parsimony of not paying for a qualified engineer to attend to it. If this be so, the Government may claim the destruction of having inconvenienced a community for nearly three years by its inability to cope with a difficulty which the smallest municipality at home would overcome in a few months, and I do not hesitate to say that no Water Company at home would, under similar circumstances, have dared to treat its customers in the manner the Government have treated the Kowloon ratepayers. The inconvenience which Kowloon residents have for so long suffered is, we may be told, no concern of the Sanitary Board, but there is another aspect of the question, viz. its bearing upon the Public Health, which very much concerns us, and it is upon these grounds that I ask the Board to urge upon Government the necessity for energetic action and the importance of making arrangements, even though they be temporary, for improving and increasing the service as quickly as possible. The plague this summer at Hunghom, Yaumati and Tsimsatsui was, I believe, the worst we have known and it seems to me not illogical to suppose that the severity of the outbreak was accentuated by scarcity of water for cleansing and flushing purposes. At the present moment a large force of troops is stationed at Kowloon for whom water is brought in native boats, a method of conveyance which must of necessity constitute a danger from a sanitary point of view, even though the water be collected from uncontaminated areas, and if, as seems probable, the military forces at Kowloon are to remain permanently augmented it is imperative upon the Government to attend quickly to the water supply, and it will be the duty of the Sanitary Board to agitate until they do so.

Dr. HARTIGAN, in seconding, said they all knew the absolute necessity of water for the public health, and they all knew that in Hongkong in times past they had suffered severely through want of water. He remembered that when Pokfulam was made some people laughed at it, saying that the reservoirs were infinitely

more than they would ever want, and yet but a few years afterwards they had spent millions of money in bringing water from T'ytam. In the same way he could remember there being supplied from Pokfulam with what was absolutely liquid mud. If such water had been supplied by a company at home the company would have been prosecuted, but as far as he could judge Kowloon was getting into very much the same condition. The water supply at Kowloon had long been utterly inadequate, and he certainly thought that they as a Board would fail greatly in their duty if they did not by every means in their power try to get the Government to do what was necessary in the matter. It was all very well for the Government to say they knew the requirements of Kowloon as well as they did. They might do that; but what the Government wanted to see was something being done. He thought the parsimony of the Government in regard to an engineer for such an important work as the waterworks was very much to be condemned.

Major BROWN, in supporting, said Mr. Osborne gave them a splendid phrase just now when he referred to the markets, as a movement of stagnation and decay. The President had announced that the Government were sparing neither time, money, nor energy in putting the Kowloon Water Supply on a proper footing. He might mention, however, that there was a widely spread rumour that the tender put forward by the Dock Company for repairing the pumping machinery was \$2,000, and that the Chinaman's tender was under \$1,000. He heard that \$975 was the figure. The last mechanic's cash pay was about \$70 and the present man's cash was \$100. A properly qualified engineer's pay was \$300 a month. The cost of a new pump was \$3,000 and of a new boiler \$4,500. Referring to the meters, he complained of their registering air as well as water and this having to be paid for.

The PRESIDENT observed that if Major Brown had come to him for information instead of getting it from mechanics and subordinate officers in the department it would have been better.

Major BROWN—I got it from outside.

The PRESIDENT said that the information about tenders was confidential and must have come from one of the subordinate officials. Though the Kowloon water supply was unsatisfactory no doubt the state of affairs was very much exaggerated. Only that day a resident of Huntsford Terrace told him that he had never experienced any scarcity of water, and some other residents in the Terrace had been called upon to pay the small sum imposed in such cases for having used water in excess of the amount allowed by Ordinance. In his opinion the enormous and unprecedented increase of the population of Kowloon was really what had caused the trouble of the last few months. He was confident that the census when taken next year would give some astonishing results as to the population on the other side of the water. It was not possible to carry out a system of water supply for Kowloon at a moment's notice. It was not a case of merely turning on more water. The works at present in Kowloon caused very little complaint until the enormous increase in population took place some two years ago. The military force at Kowloon had been doubled or trebled lately, and the supply which was sufficient three years ago was insufficient now. It was not necessary for him to say more just then. In another capacity no doubt he would be called upon to report on the matter.

Mr. OSBORNE said he should like to correct the impression which the President's remarks might create. He did not believe that at that Board or any other Board anything was gained by exaggerating a thing. He always took very great care to be certain of what he said before he said it, and in connection with the Kowloon water service he had waited a very long time before taking any steps, because he knew the difficulty the Public Works department had had to encounter in consequence of this large increase of population. He had no hesitation in saying that from the very first time the Kowloon Water supply was inaugurated it was never more than a partial success, and it had gone from bad to worse. It had never kept pace with the growth of the population.

The Wharf Company went to the great expense of laying down pipes for supplying fresh water to ships. In the first year they were only able to supply about half of what they were asked for, and the quantity had dwindled down year by year and month by month, until they had not supplied an ounce of water during the last six months. He would not presume to say how the water was to be conveyed to people's houses. That was a matter for the Public Works Department. He merely gave facts. There was ample water at Kowloon throughout the writer. During the driest season there was abundant. There was splendid water running to waste on the hills at the back at a level which was high enough to require only gravitation for the water to flow into Kowloon. Of course the Hongkong Government when it did work did it so very thoroughly that it took a tremendous time to do it, but he did not see that was any reason why temporary arrangements should not be made for utilising some of this water in the Peninsula if there was not sufficient from the wells, but he questioned whether it was not sufficient, and whether it was not only a question of pumping.

Major BROWN said he had not asked any subordinate official in the Public Works Department for the information he had given. He had asked several engineers. As he had lived over in Kowloon for five years he had naturally talked to a great many of them.

A REASONABLE PROPOSAL.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN proposed the following motion of which he had given notice:—That notwithstanding anything contained in sections 7 and 8 of Ordinance 34 of 1899, the Board shall allow the erection of iron bars (not less than six inches apart) across the top of open spaces in the rear of domestic buildings, as a protection against thieves, provided that, in each case the sanction of the Medical Officer of Health be obtained for the erection of these bars." He pointed out that many Chinese had become so frightened because of the unprotected state of the back-yards that they had left the colony.

Mr. Chan A Fook, in seconding, advocated the placing of iron bars in the cases in question in order to keep the children from accidents.

The Board considered the proposal a reasonable one and the motion was carried.

THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCE QUESTION.

The following letter, dated 10th September, from the Acting Director of Public Works to the Acting Colonial Secretary was submitted:—

"Referring to the instructions contained in His Excellency's minute of 17th July, 1900. I have the honour to report that a public urinal has been erected in the centre of Connaught Road immediately west of the Canton and Macao Steamboat Company's Wharf, and a water supply connected thereto. I would suggest that this report be sent to the Sanitary Board in order that the structure may be properly looked after and kept clean."

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Clark:—"The worst possible design—it is a pity the P.W.D. cannot get something more suitable to this colony."

Mr. McKie:—"I propose to visit this convenience before next meeting."

Dr. Hartigan:—"Is this convenience of the same type as that near the City Hall? If so it cannot be kept clean. The Board should be consulted before such works are erected."

It was decided to postpone the consideration of this matter for a fortnight in order that the President and others might inspect the structure in question.

FORTNIGHTLY LIMEWASHING RETURN.

Chief Inspector Dandy in his fortnightly limewashing return shows that since his previous report 26 houses have been limewashed in the Eastern District, and 44 in the Central District. There have been 54 prosecutions and the total fines amount to \$500.

OUR MILK SUPPLY.

The result of the analysis of a sample of milk purchased at No. 7, Polo Ground Street, was submitted, the Acting Government Analyst (Mr. T. J. Wild) certifying to its being a genuine sample.

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

The death-rate for the colony for the week ended September 15th was 20.0 against 20.0 for the preceding week, and 23.3 for the corresponding week last year.

MACAO MORTALITY RETURNS.

The number of deaths in Macao for the week ended September 9th was 42, and for the following week 49.

BAD CONDENSED MILK.

The following report from Dr. Clark was submitted:—

"I have the honour to report that I have seized 20 cases of condensed milk at a grocer's shop at No. 300, Queen's Road Central, in accordance with Section 25 of the Public Health Ordinance. The milk is unfit for human food, and I beg to request the necessary authority of the Board to destroy the same."

THE BURIAL OF ANIMALS AT KENNEDYTOWN.

THE USE OF NULLAHS AT KENNEDYTOWN

BY WASHHERMEN.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the burial of animals at Kennedytown and the use of nullahs at Kennedytown by washermen. The Colonial Veterinary Surgeon wrote:—

"1.—There is very little available ground left at Kennedytown for the burial of animals, so that it is necessary that some early arrangement be made for the disposal of those which die in the Government Animal Depots. The total number of dead animals during the past six months has been 158.

"2.—Burial at sea is out of the question, as in the first place, there are times when it cannot be done, and secondly, it would cost far too much.

"3.—I am therefore in favour of a crematorium, which should be erected solely for this purpose, and which should be placed at such a distance from slaughter-house and the road leading to it as to render any smoke, smell, or fumes from it innocuous to meat which might be hanging in the cooling rooms at the slaughter-house, or is being conveyed therefrom down the same road to the markets. Another point in favour of cremation is that it would then be impossible for thieves to dig up during the night the carcasses of animals which have been buried, and to sell them for food in the streets and licensed shops outside the markets, which is no doubt largely done at present in spite of all precautions. A suitable site for a crematorium would be one some little way back from the road behind the stone-breaking mill at Kennedytown. Any fears as to the financial position of the slaughter-house and Animal Depots may be easily set aside when it is known that the nett revenue collected from these buildings from 1895 to the end of 1899 amounted to \$233,647 after paying all expenses, whilst the total cost of preparing the site and erecting them, including Inspector's quarters and landing wharf, only reached the sum of \$116,316; or in other words they have paid for themselves twice over during the past five years. Hence it may be readily seen that no money difficulties need stand in the way of the proposal.

Dr. Clark wrote:—"It is improbable that a refuse destructor will be built next year, and I think, therefore, that the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon's suggestion for a crematorium for dead cattle which have died of disease should be considered by the Board. There can be no question whatever as to the utility and even necessity for such a building."

Dr. Hartigan wrote:—"I heard to-day that many more animals have been buried around Kennedytown than there is accommodation for. This would account for general saturation and stink of the soil. I was also informed that washermen use both the nullah at Kennedytown and that at Sandy Bay, below Plague Cemetery. I do not think this advisable."

Inspector H. J. Knight reported:—"In answer to above I beg to state as follows.

"1.—Re burying animals, I myself have only buried on three occasions but I believe this ground to be nearly full up with dead animals, as at the present time I am finding it difficult to find room for graves for dead cattle. There is no doubt the soil is as described, as I believe it is almost a daily occurrence for dead pigs to be buried there, and no lime or disinfectants used.

"2.—Re Washermen using the nullah at Sandy Bay. There are four washermen using a stream north and above the Chinese new mortuary. This stream flows from the Pokfulam direction, and although it certainly drains a small portion of the Protestant Cemetery, the distance is so long that I have not before reported this

case, as it seemed impossible to me for the water to be polluted.

"3.—Re washermen using nullah at Kennedytown. — There are two washermen using a stream starting from Mount Davis and emptying itself near the old Chinese Mortuary. The places through which this water passes are not affected by graves at the Cemetery."

The following minutes were appended.

Mr. McKie:—"I very strongly support the views of Dr. Clark."

Dr. Hartigan:—"I agree with the M. O. H."

Mr. Fung Wa Chun:—"I don't think washermen should be allowed to use either place at Kennedytown or at Sandy Bay, and as to the burial of dead animals at Kennedytown, that should be stopped too."

Major Brown, R.A.M.C.:—"I agree with the M. O. H."

Dr. Bell:—"I agree with the M. O. H."

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by Dr. BELL, it was decided to recommend the Government to provide a crematorium for dead cattle at Kennedytown.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG BRANCH OF THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, the 24th inst., at noon, a meeting in connection with the Hongkong branch of the China Association was held. Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., occupied the chair, and there were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., E. W. Mitchell, C. S. Sharp (committee), F. Henderson (hon. secretary), G. C. Anderson, R. C. Wilcox, J. H. Lewis, F. Smyth, J. MacKie, and H. P. White.

The CHAIRMAN said that the report had not been circulated in time for those present to have had the opportunity of reading it, so with their permission he would read it. The report was as follows:—

"The last report was dated 11th May, 1899.

"The Committee as constituted at that date is still in office and consists of Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (chairman), the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Sir Thomas Jackson, Messrs. C. S. Sharp, E. W. Mitchell and F. Henderson (hon. secretary). A new Committee is to be elected at this meeting.

"Since the date of that report the Committee has continued to furnish the Home Association with periodical returns and reports in connection with the important question of the Contagious Diseases Acts, and they are able to congratulate the members upon the fact that the persistency of the Association in bringing pressure to bear on the Colonial Office has resulted in a certain measure of regulation being sanctioned and in the very great consequent improvement in the health of our soldiers and sailors stationed in Hongkong. The Committee hope that further efforts in the same direction may result in still greater supervision and in still better results as regards the protection of our forces from contagious disease. While it was undoubtedly highly desirable, for many reasons, that a certain class of houses should be removed from the centre of the city, it is not so clear that their migration to the Wanchai district was equally desirable, as in that district all our barrack accommodation and all the Clubs and Institutions for soldiers and sailors are to be found.

"In the position of affairs in Southern China since the date of the last report very little alteration indeed has taken place. No substantial improvement in the regulations affecting the trade on the West River has been effected, and the river and its approaches are no better lighted or policed than they were. The arrival of Li Hung-chang in Canton as Viceroy had undoubtedly an effect on the prevalence of piracy and under his strong government it largely diminished, but the elements of disorder are still there and the means of defence and repression have by no means improved. A few months of feeble government or no government on the part of Li Hung-chang's successor will again fill the river and its backwaters with pirates and robbers as numerous and as audacious as ever. The policing of the West and North River will have ultimately to be undertaken by Great Britain. It is some consolation, however, to be able to note that the trade on

the West River has, in spite of all hindrances, considerably increased, and we can thus form some opinion of the considerable developments possible if only some orderly system of government prevailed and if a regular system of taxation could be substituted for irregular squeezes and uncertain tariffs.

"Your Committee in its last published report laid before you a copy of a letter it had addressed to the Association in London, under date the 23rd May, 1899, strongly urging on the Executive Committee the importance of having at all times in Hongkong, in addition to the garrison, a moveable column of arms, under the order of the General Officer Commanding but at the disposal of H. M. Minister in Peking, available for service at any moment in any part of China where their services might be required for the repression of disturbances and for the protection of life and property. Your Committee emphasised the fact that China was breaking up rapidly, that the central power was growing weaker daily; that rebellions were threatening in every province, that the anti-foreign feeling was growing rapidly more violent and that at any moment troops might be required for the protection of vital interests, especially in our sphere of influence, the Yangtze. Every statement in that letter has since been amply justified. It was laid before the Foreign Office immediately on its receipt in England, but beyond a formal acknowledgement of its receipt, no notice was ever taken of it, or of the innumerable similar representations that were reaching the Home Government from all sides as to our position and prospects in China, with the result that when the long looked for uprising took place in the northern provinces in May last with such disastrous effects, there was not a soldier available nearer than India, and the garrison of Hongkong, painfully small at the best of times, had to be indentured upon to the extent of one half of its available strength. In June of this year, a letter, which will be found in the appendix, was addressed to the Association in England calling attention to the communication of twelve months before and again urging the importance of always retaining in Hongkong, *over and above the garrison*, a force of all arms available for the defence of our threatened interests in the southern provinces, Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan, where another power is making every effort to gain a footing. The official reply to this letter was a simple statement by the Foreign Office that the garrison of Hongkong was maintained at such a strength as the military authorities there thought sufficient. The point was wholly ignored that the Committee's suggestion was for the maintenance of a force, *hors the garrison*, for an entirely different service.

"Fortunately during the Crisis in the North a greater degree of peace and good order has, on the whole, been maintained in the Southern provinces than could have been expected and no special measures of defence have been required. How long that condition of affairs may last is another question.

"During the last eighteen months there has not been much correspondence. What there has been appears in the appendix. Most of the questions arising during the period have been such as more directly concerned the Shanghai Branch, or have been mainly commercial questions which belonged to our Cosmopolitan Chamber of Commerce. Your Committee whenever called has supported and co-operated with both bodies. Most of our communications from Home are either private or semi-official letters from the Hon. Secretary in London to our Hon. Secretary, Mr. Henderson, and copies of documents not for publication, but the file is open to the inspection of individual members. The Association at Home is beginning at length to recognise that its plan of operations in the past has not been successful, that too great deference for the feelings of those in authority, and too great reliance on the courteous promises of the Foreign Office is not the most effective method of getting done what the Association wants done. The methods of the Navy League will have to be more closely copied. The force behind the Foreign Office—Parliament and the Public—must be appealed to in emergencies. Mr. Gundry in a letter addressed to the Honourable William Keswick, M.P., admits that "the experience of the past five years

shows that the Government have neglected nearly every suggestion of a political character which the Association has made." The reason is clear, although Mr. Gundry does not mention it—the suggestions were made confidentially and the Government could safely ignore them, having no fear either of questions in Parliament or at discussions in the press and having no motive whatever to induce them to put themselves out of the way.

"Your Committee sincerely hope that the recent serious events in and about Peking will open the eyes of the Government and the public to the true position of affairs in China and to the probability of the loss of our position and prestige (which will be followed by the loss of our trade) in the Far East, and that greater foresight and intelligence in the conduct of affairs will lead to a speedy resuscitation of our power and influence in Peking and to the more rapid expansion of our trade.

The CHAIRMAN continuing, said—Of the list of members in your hands I am sorry to say that over 19 are absent from the colony at the present moment. The accounts are also placed at your disposal. They show a credit balance of \$306.49, after paying the cost of telegrams. Now, gentlemen, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts there are one or two points to which I would like to call your attention. We are undoubtedly at a very critical period in the history of British influence in China, a very critical point in the history of this Association itself; hence to-day I regret for many reasons that the attendance is not more numerous. One of the principal objects, the principal object I should say for which this Association is formed, is expressed in the first paragraph of what I may call the memorandum of Association. "To represent, to express and to give effect to the opinion of the British mercantile community in their political and commercial relations with the Chinese and Japanese." Now, gentlemen, the China Association undoubtedly represents, both in London and out here in the Far-East—in Hongkong and Shanghai—everything that is most representative of the ability and the skill and the intelligence of the British mercantile community, past and present. It is equally certain, so far as I am able to judge from the little portion of the corresponding work of the Home Committee that I have seen, that the Committee have seen, that they have given the fullest expression in their communications to the Foreign Office of the opinions entertained on the whole by the members of the British communities out here in the East. But the China Association has entirely failed to carry out the third portion of this programme, *i.e.*, to give effect to these representations. As Mr. Gundry—the gentleman who has been hon. secretary of the Association since its commencement, who has worked very hard for the Association, and who has interested himself deeply in all questions concerning China, and has written in his personal capacity in the *Times* and other journals and magazines at home, has written powerfully—admits, during the last five years (and they are five critical years in the history of China) the Foreign Office has paid absolutely no attention to one single political suggestion that has been laid before it by the China Association. And why is this? Because unfortunately at its commencement the China Association constituted itself a sort of intelligence department for the Foreign Office. It entertained the idea, the mistaken idea, with reference to a public Government department in Great Britain, that if facts were clearly put before it and sound arguments it would be influenced by them. Nothing will influence any British public department except a vote in Parliament and disturbance in the newspapers. The whole work of the China Association has been confined to making representations through one channel—the Foreign Office. It has been far too courtly in its methods of expressing these opinions, and not sufficiently plain-spoken, and it has not taken the only means by which these expressions of opinion and communications to the Foreign Office could be made effective. It has not appealed either to Parliament or to public opinion. It has refused to give information even to members of the Colonial party in the House when they have wanted it for the purposes of discussion in the House. It has not appealed as an Association to the public press or public opinion in any way. It has assumed the

role of confidential adviser to the Foreign Office. Its communications have been able, they have been frequent, but they have been wholly non-effective, because the China Association had not the force, and did not attempt to get the force of public opinion behind it. Now, gentlemen, that being the system upon which the business of the China Association has been conducted since its origin, I feel I owe an apology to the members of the last Committee, to the members of the Association for the complaint I made at the last annual meeting that the Committee did not take the members of the Association or the public sufficiently into their confidence and did not advocate sufficiently the opinions of the members. You were so good as to elect me on the Committee, possibly with the view of infusing a little more energy into the Association. I found since I joined this Committee—when they did me the honour of electing me Chairman—I found that the system on which the China Association was worked deprecated all agitation, deprecated all appeals to public men, deprecated appeals to public opinion, deprecated the publication of any correspondence in which possibly harsh words would be found to offend the ears of those in authority. It had adopted and continued up to this day the role of confidential adviser to the Foreign Office. Therefore, I found some members, most influential members of the Committee, were against calling public meetings or appealing to public opinion in Hongkong. The whole system under which the China Association was being worked is totally opposed to all agitation. What is the position in China? It is a very difficult one, it is extremely difficult to estimate what will be the state of British influence and what the British position will be in China twelve months hence or even a shorter period. So far our trade and commerce and shipping have not suffered materially, but our political influence in China seems at the moment to be absolutely nil. Only five years ago, before war broke out between China and Japan, Great Britain stood in the paramount position in China. We were supposed to be supreme in Peking. The Government might, if they had wished, stopped the war, but they failed to interfere to prevent the war between China and Japan. Anyone knowing the history of the events knows that if we had told the Chinese Government that they must not go to war and insisted on the settlement of the Korean question between China and Japan there would have been no war. After the war we stood by and allowed France, Russia and Germany to do what they pleased. It may have been a wise step and probably was a wise step that the Japanese were not allowed to reap any territorial result from their successful endeavours in China. Other Powers stepped in; they took possession to a greater or less extent of that which Japan was prevented from acquiring. But Great Britain did nothing; she proclaimed most loudly and apparently in the strongest possible language that the 'open door' should be preserved, that the integrity of China should be preserved, that rights which she possessed by treaty and which under her influence had been granted to every other nation by the most-favoured-nation clauses, should be maintained in the strongest possible manner. The open door has not been maintained and cannot be maintained. What was the next declaration? The declaration that whatever happened in the North, whatever happened in the South, Great Britain would have a definite, clear sphere of influence on the Yangtze, and no one would be allowed to interfere with it. Great Britain has done absolutely nothing since, either to secure that sphere of influence definitely; to announce her intention to maintain that sphere of influence; and to prevent other powers from interfering in any way. Russian influence prevails largely in connection with the main lines of railway running from Peking into these Yangtze provinces, and it is impossible for us to say at the present moment, at the present state of the political situation—it is utterly impossible for us to say twelve months hence whether German influence or British influence will prevail in the Yangtze Valley. It seems, gentlemen, as if we had come to an extremely critical point indeed in the history of Great Britain's political influence and political authority in the Far East. I am not at all

certain that the new Association which is being started at home—the China League—and which does intend to take a leaf out of the Navy League book, and to appeal to publication of pamphlets and leaflets and by holding public meetings will not be in the end a much more powerful representation of British opinion in China than the China Association. I beg to move, gentlemen, the adoption of the report and accounts.

Captain ANDERSON seconded, and the report was adopted unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The only other business before you is the election of the committee.

The voting papers were then distributed, and in the meantime the CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr. F. Henderson, resigning his office as Honorary Secretary, on account of his early departure from the colony. The Chairman moved that, in the circumstances, the resignation be accepted and that the Hongkong Branch of the Association tender him their most hearty thanks for his valuable services during the last five years. (Applause.)

Mr. MACKIE suggested that the list of members be revised. They had an income from 45 members. The other 15 who did not pay should either have their names removed or pay their money.

The CHAIRMAN explained that members absent from Hongkong had not as a rule been required to pay subscriptions.

It was then proposed by Mr. WILCOX, seconded by Mr. LEWIS, that Mr. White be admitted a member of the Association.

Carried.

The following Committee was elected:—Hon. C. P. Chater, Mr. E. W. Mitchell, Sir Thos. Jackson, Mr. C. S. Sharp, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Messrs. J. J. Francis, J. MacKie and R. C. Wilcox.

THE STORY OF PEKING.

(I.) DURING THE SIEGE.

A GRAPHIC NARRATIVE.

[The following account is specially written for us by a doctor who was among the besieged garrison of the Legations and surrounding buildings at Peking.]

THE TROUBLE BEGINS.

On the 8th of June last it was the general impression outside of the Legations in Peking that the situation had grown suddenly very serious, and that neither life nor property, unguarded, was safe. That morning at 2 o'clock all the missionaries from Tungehow and the teachers in the Congregational College there fled to Peking. Soon after their entire property was burned and looted by a mob of Boxers. On Friday the 8th word was sent to all the mission compounds and Customs Lane that it was considered best for people to congregate. This was done through a meeting of the American missionaries, who at the same time cabled President McKinley for relief. The last train left Peking on the morning of June the 4th, and after that date no foreigner was able to leave Peking.

EARLY PREPARATIONS.

The Japanese Chancellor who a few days later went outside the walls was shot and killed by the Imperial soldiers. The night of June the 8th found about 70 Americans gathered in the American Methodist Compound. They asked the U. S. Minister for a contingent of marines and received a guard of 20 from the Legation. To these were added 20 armed men from among themselves, making a protecting force of forty men. Early the next morning preparations were made to fortify the place, food supplies were brought in and preparations made for a siege. Committees were appointed, and by noon a complete organization was effected. The situation grew worse daily and those who understood best the Chinese character were apprehensive of coming evil. Chinese Christians, some torn and beaten, others burned, came pouring in from outlying districts with tales of massacre and rapine that seemed almost unthinkable. But among those gathered at this place were men from all over North Eastern China, who had watched the gathering clouds for months, although they had sounded an alarm in the ears of deaf diplomatists. At this time telegraphic communication was open with the world. And it is a significant fact, worthy

of special notice, that the Roman Catholic Cathedral and a Protestant Mission Compound were fortified and guarded two weeks before any Legation in Peking had made a sand bag. Up to this time Committees from the different missions had met with very little encouragement, when reporting what they considered the situation to the Diplomatic Corps. The gathering of the Americans at the Methodist Compound was an effort on their part to protect the native Christians. No foreign minister was willing to assume any responsibility for the protection of the latter. Many of the missionaries felt that at such a time they could not be deserted. As a consequence something of a compromise was made, the American Minister sending 20 marines to the American fort, the French Minister sending 30 soldiers to the Cathedral. The North Cathedral proved to be a splendid fort, surrounded as it is by a very strong and high wall. The American Compound was weakened by its proximity to the city wall and later had to be entirely abandoned, a retreat being made into the British Legation. During the two weeks spent at the mission compound active steps were taken for defence and fortification. The organisation here effected was one that later proved to be of great value when the siege proper began. A general meeting was held and the following Committees were appointed:—

1. General Committee for Public Comfort and Oversight.
2. Committee on Fortifications.
3. " on Food and Water Supply.
4. " on Sanitation.
5. " on care of Native Refugees.
6. " in charge of armed Natives.
7. " in charge of Chinese labour.

Captain Hall of the U. S. Marines was in command of the military defences and of the 40 volunteers and marines.

THE WORK OF FORTIFICATION.

In a few days the entire compound had the appearance of a fort. The seven hundred native Christians who had fled there for refuge soon proved themselves to be a very valuable auxiliary. In fact it was the work done by these native converts at this compound that directed the attention of one or two of the ministers to the practicability of protecting them for the sake of the use to which they could be put in the manual labour of fortifying. Mr. F. D. Gamewell was the chairman here of the committee on fortifications. Mr. Gamewell is a man about 42 years of age. He comes from South Carolina and has spent about 20 years in C. I. A. He is a teacher of Physics and Mechanical Engineering at the Methodist College in Peking.

THE FIRST MURDER OF A EUROPEAN.

On the morning of June the 20th the murder of Baron von Ketteler by the very soldiers whom the Tsungli Yamen had promised would escort us safely to Tientsin caused the Foreign Ministers to abandon their plan of proceeding overland under Chinese guard to Tientsin.

The death of Baron von Ketteler must be considered as a vicarious sacrifice for the rest of the foreigners in Peking. Had von Ketteler not met his death at the hands of the treacherous Chinese troops we would have been ordered out of Peking according to the plan of the Diplomatic Corps, as announced the night before, to a certain death. The killing of the German Minister opened the eyes of those who favoured proceeding to Tientsin, and from that time the siege of Peking proper began. Those who had maintained that the Government was still dealing honestly, were at last forced by a terrible lesson to acknowledge that they had underestimated the danger. And it is to be said to the credit of Sir Claude McDonald that he was the only Minister in the siege who acknowledged that they had made a mistake in not dealing differently with the Chinese.

ORGANISATION AND FOOD.

As stated above, when all the foreigners retreated into the British Legation no fortifications had been begun by any Legation in Peking, save a couple of useless barricades across Legation Street. The Tsungli Yamen had given 24 hours for the foreigners to leave Peking, beginning at 5 o'clock on the 19th. Von Ketteler's death was the one cause of the concentration of all foreigners in the British Legation. The organization of the siege began at once. Food was brought in from every available place within the lines of defence. Captain Ha

seeing a Chinese foreign goods-store just near the Legation, ordered all groceries to be confiscated. Several grain-shops were found within easy reach of our lines. By six o'clock on the evening of the 20th enough rice and wheat had been found to feed 3,000 native converts and the entire foreign population for at least eight weeks. That such an amount of food was able to be found in so small a space seems miraculous. As soon as the food supply was found sufficient—although no one dreamed that we would have a siege of more than two weeks—men turned to other things and committees were soon perfected for carrying out a siege plan. It was organised on much the same plan as that found to work so well at the mission compound. Sir Claude McDonald acting as General-in-Chief appointed Mr. Gamewell to take charge of fortifications, and found his Chairman for the Committee of Public Comfort in the same gentleman who had served in that capacity for two weeks at the American Community fort. Captain Strouts was placed in charge of military defence, the French, German, Japanese, American, and Russian marines remaining in their respective Legations, the Austrian and Italian soldiers assisting the others.

COMMITTEES IN ACTION.

Other committees were:—Food Supply—to distribute rations; Committee on confiscated goods—to distribute to those needing them; Committee on Chinese labour—to find and apportion workers among the native Christians; Committee on Registration and Time-keeping—to keep a register of time and work done by the above and to call men on their turn. A committee of two physicians was appointed in charge of sanitary work. The physician to the British Legation and the physician to the German Legation were placed in charge of the Hospital for the wounded. There were a number of trained nurses who, with the female missionary physicians, were appointed as nurses. Other committees grew up as the siege progressed. A Kitchen in the open air was opened for the feeding of the Chinese who were labouring on the grounds. This was placed in the hands of some of the older men who were not able to do heavy manual labour.

FIGHTING FIRES.

Mr. Tours, of the British Legation, had charge of the Fire Department. Every one who could was expected to lend a hand in case of fire, and more than once every available man and woman was called out to assist in putting out a fire. An outbreak formed one of our greatest dangers for the first week. One day alone the Chinese started seven different fires with the idea of burning us out. Providence seemed to favour us, for when the most terrible of those fires were raging and had already caught the stables at the south end of the Legation grounds, the wind changed and swept the flames in the opposite direction, and for 24 hours that fire burned out the Chinese houses surrounding us, making our position very much safer. No harder work was done during the siege than fighting the fires during these first few days. By the end of the first week committees were completed, and from that time on every one knew his duty and did it, and with few exceptions the work went on smoothly. Great credit is due to the students of the British Legation and to the Imperial Customs young men, who formed a volunteer guard and did most excellent work as soldiers. A number of them were among the wounded and killed.

—AND DISEASE.

Scarlet fever broke out among the native refugees, but its progress was soon stayed, and only one very light case occurred among any of the foreign children.

ARTILLERY WANTED.

We soon found that one of our greatest needs was a cannon, as the Legation marines had no gun heavier than a 1 in. Italian. For the latter there were only 50 rounds of ammunition. One of the gunners was one day trying to make a gun out of some brass tubing, when two natives seeing his idea hurried off to an old junk shop and soon brought back a muzzle-loading barrel of an 1860 English cannon. This rusted iron tube proved to be of the greatest service. Some shells were found in the Russian Legation, which, by taking them out of their cartridges and setting off by means of a fuse, did most excellent execution. The first

time this gun went off so surprised the Chinese soldiers that they jumped up and looked over their barricades to see what it was, when they were picked off by our riflemen. This gun was nicknamed the "Betsy"; it perhaps gave the Chinese one of the greatest surprises of the siege. Almost all the legations had one rapid-fire gun, but we found only a limited use for these, as the Chinese made few rushes in the open. Night seemed to be the most favourable time of attack with the Chinese, although they always used their artillery in daylight, seldom firing the latter after nightfall. Their rifle-firing was deafening, and as the bullets flattened against the walls or upon the tiles the echo added to the din.

THE CHINESE GUN-PRACTICE.

All day long, even when no general attack was being made, sharpshooters kept landing bullets in the Legation grounds. It seems almost incredible that with the number of children who played in the open air not one was hurt by these stray bullets. The most disheartening attacks after their attempts to fire us were when they opened the artillery. For almost a month without missing a day shells flew over our heads—or bursting high in air spent themselves by the time they reached ground. And yet, notwithstanding the fact that the Chinese used their big guns very poorly, many a brave soldier was carried in dead or wounded by these poorly aimed shells.

OUR DIETARY.

There are eight wells inside the Legation grounds, and after the fires ceased to use so much water there was no scarcity. The grounds inside the line of defence contained about 90 ponies and mules. These animals formed a very "stable" article of diet. Mr. Allardyce of the Imperial University was the distributor of this dainty. A physician examined the meat after the animal was killed. About 85 or 86 were eaten and three condemned. Horse-meat, rice and coarse brown bread formed the chief articles of diet. Whatever else may be said about them, they are nutritious.

THE ENEMY'S TREACHERY.

Capt. Strouts was killed about the 16th of July and Sir Claude McDonald assumed command, with Lieut. Squires of the American Legation as head of his staff. On the 18th of July the Chinese asked for a flag of truce to be raised on both sides. As our ammunition was low, it was very gladly granted. But we soon found that a Chinese truce meant only what any faith that has ever been placed in the Chinese has always meant—treachery. More than one brave soldier was picked off during that truce. This truce lasted with sporadic attacks of firing until the 8th or 9th of August. It gave our hard overworked men a little chance to rest, although no work stopped and no vigilance was relaxed. We had learned by this time that the "heathen Chinese" was not a man who warred by the laws of civilized warfare. The summer of 1900 was unusually cool for Peking and the health of adults was exceptionally good. The infants suffered greatly and about seven of them had died by the end of the siege. Among the native converts infants died by the dozens.

THE FIRST MESSAGE.

On the 25th of July we received our first message from the outside world. A messenger sent to Tientsin on July 11th returned with a message from the British Consul. This, the first word received, was very disheartening when we realized that there were no troops between Peking and Tientsin. Our only hope was that we might be able to hold out for two more weeks. We held out for almost three.

During the siege we sent a number of messengers out. The first one to go and return was a boy 15 years of age. He made a perilous trip to Tientsin. Once he was captured by the Boxers and made to work for seven days. He arrived at Tientsin and found the shelling so severe he could not get into the city. He hung around for some time until he managed to make his way through the lines during the lull that followed. The boy received 500 taels for his bravery and is promised a good education. Another messenger arrived the first week in August, bringing the glad news that the allied relief forces were on the point of starting for Peking. No one but those who have been besieged know what such news mean. About the 9th of

August the Chinese again opened fire, making their principal attacks at night. This continued for four nights, until on the night of the 13th they made a most terrific attack. For one hour nothing could be heard but the noise of explosive bullets and the patter of Mauser bullets on the tile roofs. This attack was so severe that almost every one felt that the relief party was nearing the city and the Chinese were making one last effort to capture the imprisoned foreigners.

RELIEF AT LAST.

The surmise proved to be correct. Early the next morning we heard the welcome sound of Foreign Artillery knocking at the gates of Peking. We knew that relief had arrived. That afternoon about 2 o'clock the Indian Regiment under Gen. Gaselee entered the Legation grounds. And what a welcome awaited them! Men were overcome with emotion, women wept. We tried to tell the Sikhs how glad we were to see them, and although they did not understand the words, they knew what we meant. The noise and cheering of the arriving troops brought on an attack of rifle-firing from the Chinese on our West. A Sikh was severely wounded, and a woman who had gone out to welcome them was shot through the leg. Thus ended a siege which had lasted for eight weeks, where a force of 500 armed men, all told, had held out against thousands of the best armed troops. The siege of Peking is without a parallel in history.

(II.) AFTER THE CAPTURE.

[FROM OUR TIENTSIN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 26th August.

The following interesting facts that succeeded the capture of Peking on August 14th have been forwarded to me by a careful observer who was present. Although somewhat late in the day, they will, I think, greatly interest your readers.

AMERICAN GALLANTRY AND MISFORTUNES.

On the morning of August 15th the American brigade under General Chaffee in person pushed due north from the great Central Gate or Chien-Men, towards the Imperial and Forbidden Cities, and drove the Chinese back, point by point, through that impressive mass of masonry and brick-work which figures so largely in Manchu official ceremonial. It was here that our gallant cousins lost one of the very finest officers in their army, Captain Reilly. His battery was reputed to be the smartest in the United States Army and had done grand work in Cuba. Reilly was the idol of his men, and the beau ideal of a gunner. While pounding fiercely at the retreating Chinese, he was struck full in the forehead by a bullet and killed on the spot. Just as General Chaffee had finished his shelling, and was bringing up his infantry for the final assault, the French arrived on the scene of fighting for the first time, and with their usual martial ardour wanted to be in it. Their zeal, however, outdid their discretion, for, mounting their mountain battery on the City Wall near the Legations, they began a hot fire on the south part of the Imperial City, not knowing the position of the Americans. The issue was melancholy, and General Chaffee hurriedly dashed off himself to stop the annoyance; at the bottom of the wall he shouted in extremely vigorous Anglo-Saxon to the French general on top to stop his beattified fire. The linguistic ability of the Frenchman, who was accompanied by M. Piehon, the Minister, did not enable him to seize the meaning of the irate American; he volubly explained in the blindest way that he was firing for the glory of French arms. The few bi-linguists who happened to be present had a great treat; but at last the manner of the gallant American brought some doubt into the minds of the French that their action was at the moment inexpedient, so they ceased firing and hastened up with their infantry. The Americans next suffered in their *amour propre* from the Russians, who came up when the fighting was done, and by apparent inadvertence took the first place before the Palace gates. On being told they retired, leaving the Americans in possession of all the approaches to the Forbidden City and Palace.

THE CITY ENTERED.

The generals all conferred on the same afternoon and a resolution was come to not to enter the City till later on, and then on a common plan. There was now peace at this quarter. The British went on occupying the Southern or Chinese City and the vicinity of Legation St. The Japs and Russians combined met great resistance in the Eastern quarter, and the Japanese alone in the Northern. Many parts of the Chinese City were like a desert: of the population of 700,000, nine-tenths had temporarily fled. The great Bazaar to the west of the Beggars' Bridge, where all the silk, curio, and jewellers' shops were, had been looted by Boxers and Tung-Fu-shiang's men to the last stick; and millions of taels worth of property had been destroyed by fire. The Boxers in setting light to Watsons' and Co.'s small drug-store had caused the largest fire in the history of Peking. The Sikhs and 12th Battery R.F.A. encamped in the Temple of Heaven in the Chinese Town, and for the first time in many years foreigners are now able to enjoy its sylvan and park-like beauties to their hearts' content. Nearly everybody has already visited it and the adjacent Temple of Agriculture on the opposite side of the great central causeway.

THE BESIEGED PEITANG.

The next serious thing that attracted the attention of the Allies was the rescuing of the native Christians in the Peitang or Northern Cathedral. Here several thousands of poor Chinese were living or rather dying on two ounces of rice *per diem*. The vanquished Chinese soldiery, as usual, were under that peculiar frenzy of vindictiveness so characteristic of the beaten Oriental; they sought to find an object in these poor people, and opened a terrific fusillade on them at 150 yards range, all round the wide area of their defences. The gallant French and Italian marine guards, originally forty, but now reduced to a dozen and a half effective men. (16 men were killed, including all the officers), and the six really heroic fathers stood up splendidly inside the large lines which their own and 16 converts' indefatigable labour had made. I must add that as the sailors fell their rifles were given to the more capable natives; like the Legation people, they too used the native pewter, so abundant in Peking in candlesticks, incense-pots, &c., and converted it into bullets, and so refilled their cartridge cases, utilizing the powder from shot-gun cartridges, as well as actually manufacturing some from its constituents. The history of the Peitang is but an intense version of that of the Legation: there were mines and counter mines: there were deep cross trenches cut to head off the enemy's saps. The Chinese here too, as at the French Legation, had one big success: they had one large mine which blew up a large building and killed and maimed sixty children and a few women.

THE DELAY IN THE RELIEF.

By the bye, it is not generally known that after the relief a huge mine was found under the Students' Quarters in the British Legation, with the case ready for its powder in position. As this building was the chief barrack of the defenders, it is awful to think of what might have happened had there been a delay of even one hour more in the relief. Clive's story at Arcot was repeated at the Peitang; there were heroic cases of self-abnegation, some taking husks and water, giving up the minute portion of grain (40 oz. and latterly 20 oz.) to the aged. I need not add that the children died like flies. The lethargy of the Allies in not hastening to the help of these poor folk was the one bad feature of the relief of Peking. A good Italian *padre* took it so much to heart that he rode off himself to give consolation and hope, and was done to death *en route*.

THE END OF THE FIGHT.

Next day, 16th August, the pagan Japanese had all but done the duty that should fall to Christendom: they came across the Peitang in their steady systematic expulsion of the Chinese troops and just as they had driven the enemy away from the Peitang vicinity up came the French General and luckily was the first in. He was received with a glorious shout from the few heroic Frenchmen and Italian sailors left. The seamy side of the human nature came forth straight away: quite a number of Chinese troops had been driven into a blind alley. The Chinese Christians saw their fix,

borrowed or stole arms from their deliverers, and sallied into the cul de sac in the full spirit of Old Adam to have it out to the very death with their countrymen and tormentors. It was massacre at the least, for blood raged like a cyclone: the Chinese soldiers were shot and hacked to bits to the last man. Beyond some desultory fighting with Western Suburbs this was the end of the Peking Relief.

THE FLIGHT OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The Hsi Tai Ho, or Dowager, fled the city on the morning of the British and American entry. She went out by the big West gate, and, it is supposed, towards Kalgan away to the North West. The Chinese aver that the old woman was dressed as a servant, but in the East, as in the West, stories of royalty are mostly apocryphal. Some maintain that the fugitives turned off the N. W. road, and made for Jehol, to the N. E., the old hunting seat of the Emperors; others confidently state that she and the reactionaries are now at Chuan Hwa Fu, near the Mongolian frontier between the Inner and Outer Great Walls. Of the Emperor nothing is known and little is said; it is supposed that had the Japanese not met with so vigorous a resistance at the Chih-hua Gate, their cavalry could easily have overtaken the Dowager. The departure of the Court from the capital is by unwritten Chinese constitutional law a practical abrogation of the throne; but as 1860 gave one exception to this, so 1900 may give another. The flight of the Court leaves no government with which to treat, and greatly enhances the difficulties of the Powers who will now have either to create a provisional Government or bring the old one back in some form. At the moment there is no Chinese Central Government at the quondam seat of power.

THE SIGHTS OF PEKING.

When the Peitang was relieved the French pushed on through the Imperial City as far as the so-called Coal Mountain or Mei-Shan, where they hoisted the tricolour. They were soon rivalled by the Russians on the other side of the Palace, and by the British marines under Major Luke, who secured a temple at the base of the Hill. The dual alliance people did a lot of mutual congratulatory cheering here, but this was soon stopped by a huge fire which broke out in one of the French-held Pagodas. And now for the first time for many years foreign eyes saw the famous Marble Bridge which spans the Lotus Pool. The curious thing about it is now that all might see it, some cannot: the various military leaders in their silly jealousy, and in the fear that their rivals may ascertain too much have put sentries on to every place of interest. There is no mutual consideration and very little courtesy. The French and Russians, two of the politest of nations, are at present the worst offenders, but others are quickly rising to an equal height of banality. It is to be hoped that our folks will not lessen the British reputation for sense and good-fellowship by enforcing similar stupidities in the famous Temple of Heaven, the greatest of all the sights. A strange story is going the round that Her Majesty's Minister was boorishly treated by a sentry when actually making an official call on the Japanese. It is at present nothing less than disgraceful that officers and gentlemen cannot have the usual courtesies of civilized life extended to them, and cannot be allowed to visit places of historic interest.

THE LOOT QUEST.

The great question of 'loot' was settled by compromise, and like all compromises, the result was hardly satisfactory. The Japanese with their usual astuteness and by the help of their fine Intelligence Department made for the Yamen of the Hu Pu or Treasury, and then got a sum between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 taels. The French have the Li Wan-fu—Palace of Prince Li—a sort of Peking Rothschild family mansion. The Chinese says that fabulous treasure is buried in this Palace, and talk in the strain of the Arabian Nights rather than in sober sense. The Chinaman always buries in times of crisis, and as for some from Peking has been at the tender mercy and Tung Fu-shiang's Kansu ruffians it is highly probable the Manchus and Palace people have hidden their valuables still; most of the talk on this subject is wild. The Chinese and Manchu Cities have been well looted by the troops during the last two months: the Imperial and Forbidden Cities have escaped. With the looting of

these putative El Dorados are allied high political considerations, and the allied leaders have wisely postponed the matter for combined consideration and subsequent action. When instructions come from home the Ministers and Generals will probably arrange a march into the Palace, a combined salvage of property and possibly a combined destruction of it. This act apparent Vandalism will not be appreciated in Europe, but is necessary: if it be not done, the Central Government will be as before, and assure the Chinese that the Devils retired before the August Majesty of the Son of Heaven's residence and were abashed with shame and confusion. It is to be remembered that the troops and Boxers have desecrated the foreign cemetery; have opened graves, and violated the sanctity of the dead as well as of the living (Ministers, women, and children). It is also to be remembered that without some visible and permanent memorial of domination the arrogance of the Manchu mind will never be overcome. Knowing it to be a Gothic atrocity, sober judges yet hold that the two Imperial Palaces should be blown up and that the people of Peking should be impressed and made to destroy their own walls. It is on much the same plan as the destruction of the Mahdi's tomb at Omdurman, but is a thousand times more justifiable.

THE STATE OF PEKING AFTER THE CAPTURE.

The Russians cleverly sent out a force to seize the famous Summer Palace seven miles outside the City: they just forestalled the Japanese. Its horticultural glories are however not to be seen at present, as sentries block the way. Modified looting was in a sort of way recognised for three days. I need not go into details about the atrocities that happen under such circumstances. The Chinese have classified us in baseness and villianry, but I will not kindle national prejudices by giving the tripos of demerit. Many women hanged themselves, and there are stories of whole strings of self-immolated young men of rank suspended from beams in single rooms. It is only fair to add that in many cases it arose in an agony of fear, which subsequent experience may not have justified. The same thing has been going on in humble life in the Tientsin suburbs for the last six weeks, but only in districts occupied by the troops of two nationalities. Three days saw the end of these horrors, then the military leaders took charge, and rule replaced anarchy: people are now being encouraged to return to their usual avocations and resume trade, &c., but seeing that half the city is destroyed and at least seven-tenths of the folk have fled, it seems ironical to invite them to renew their usual life's history. The merry shout of the street hawker is not heard; the stench from decomposing bodies is appalling and the city is as deserted as if it were Pompei. Carts, mules, rickshaws can be had by the hundreds, free, gratis, and for nothing. The few people visible are cowed to the attitude of slaves. Ichabod, Ichabod, the glory is departed!!

(III.) THE PLUNDER OF PEKING.

LOOTING DURING THE SIEGE AND AFTER.

[This account is written by Mrs. Inglis, of the American Presbyterian Mission, who, with her husband, Dr. John Inglis, passed through Hongkong from Peking last week.]

The 20th of June, when all the foreigners in Peking save a few Legation guards retreated into the British Legation, was the first day of confiscation. The first week or two only confiscation took place, later, looting; and, when the relief troops came in, looting was done on such a grand scale that the original looters were confounded. From the first, the French, German, American, Russian and Spanish Legations were held by marine guards of the different nationalities. They, with the British Legation, formed the line of barricade. Within this line were located two foreign stores, several Chinese shops, and several houses belonging to wealthy mandarins, from which the Chinese owners had fled with the retreat of the foreigners into the British Legation.

ILL-EQUIPPED REFUGEES.

Knowing that Seymour's column had started on June 10th, for the relief of Peking, many went to the British Legation with food sup-

plies for only a few days. Some Legation ladies even fled thither without supplies of any sort save a quantity of Parisian toilettes, nor did the latter think of sending back for anything until their particular Legations were burned to the ground.

NECESSARY CONFISCATIONS.

But there were wiser heads in the number. The American Marine Capt. Hall took the initiative by confiscating the contents of a Chinese shop. This example was quickly followed, and the Chinese shops within the lines were emptied of all food supplies, and the two foreign stores turned over to the British Government. The food supplies so taken were all turned into a general commissariat, and placed in charge of a food-supply committee. Everything in the line of dry goods, silks, satins, damasks, etc., was used later for sandbags, including Chinese silks and garments of every sort and condition. But the confiscated goods did not suffice for the sandbags: private individuals gave up sheets and other linen. Lady MacDonald, Baroness von Ketteler and Mrs. Conger, cheerfully contributing their handsomest satins, and even silks. During this time it was unsafe to hang any laundry about on the bushes. More than one lady lost her last sheet or pillow-case through the energetic "sandbagging" that went on for nearly three weeks. Things even went so far that in the large houses where numbers of people were accommodated, wash-rugs and towels were pinned to lines in the general bath-room. One woman said:—"I fear even to change my clothing, for Mrs. A. or Mrs. B. is quite apt to pick up my discarded garments and make them up into sandbags before I can turn around."

THE BREAD SUPPLY.

Within the lines were also discovered several grain-shops, one in particular that three days previous to June 20th had received about seven tons of Honan wheat. This shop also contained four grinding-stones. Mr. Fenn, of the American Presbyterian Mission, was placed in charge of the mill, and he and his crew of native convert millers ground the coarse brown flour that kept a thousand people in bread for eight weeks of siege. There were only three households that had any white bread. All the others, including all the Legations, ate the brown bread from this confiscated mill. Many tons of brown rice were also taken, and thus the 3,000 Roman Catholic and Protestant converts managed to survive, even though before the troops came on August 14th the women and children had been put on famine rations, or one cup of unhusked rice dry corn per day.

COAL.

A great coal-shop was looted of its contents, and coal enough taken to last for three months. Five brass stoves were carried to the British Legation and used for cooking purposes in the crowded compounds.

THE MENU.

Everyone either willingly gave up his horse, or it was calmly taken by the meal committee for food. Racehorse and missionary mule went to the block together and were eaten in impartial fashion. If any preference was shown it was for the mule, and it was a great pity that out of the 86 animals killed there were so few mules, for of the two dainties the mule was more appetising. Not one of the few chickens in the Legations at this time could find a safe spot in which to deposit her egg. Her privacy was always interrupted, nor could she count on her proper owner securing her production, for the article still warm was sure to find its way by human instrumentality to some poor mother with a weak and ailing child. In fact there were a few good Christian men in the siege who lay in wait for the cackling of the busy hen, and then personally saw that the few eggs went where most needed.

CLOTHING THE DESTITUTE.

Many of the Chinese garments looted were distributed to the destitute Chinese. An auction or two were held, several hundred of dollars of goods sold and delivered, but at the last account the money was uncollected.

RAPACIOUS "LADIES."

A French woman went one day to the controller of the loot and asked for a silk garment for her amah. "But we don't give amahs silk garments," the controller protested, "and besides I have given your amah a garment al-

ready." "Well, I'm going to have this silk garment for her anyway," coolly remarked the lady in broken English, laying violent hands upon it. Thereupon the controller's ire was roused, and he laid hands upon it and, being the stronger, took it from Madame and locked it up. Later behold Madame and Monsieur walking rapidly towards the controller! Monsieur was twisting his moustache in an angry fashion. "Sir," he began, "how dare you dispute with my wife? She cannot speak English." "Sir," mildly replied the controller, "I cannot speak French." "Well," said the fierce gentleman, "Madame, my wife, wishes this garment. Will you give it to her?" "Certainly to Madame," replied the controller, "but not to her amah." And later Madame was seen arrayed like a sunbeam in the garment she had ostensibly desired for her servant. Even before the troops came, the French people stationed in the Legation showed a beautiful disregard for death and the hereafter in their desire for loot. At one time some of the looting party threatened to report to headquarters the attacks of the French women, when they, under orders, were looting the great Hanlin Library that had been fired by the Chinese soldiers in an attempt to set Sir Claude MacDonald's house on fire. "The French women were all waiting for us," one man said, "as we crept back through the wall into the British Legation. They never asked for any of the loot but simply grabbed it out of our arms and ran away with it. There were lots of such silk and stuff. These French women did not belong to the Legation, and it is interesting to note that they were among the very few women who did not join in the work of making sandbags for the defences."

A GHASTLY FIND.*

After the first few weeks had gone by, it was thought that all the surrounding houses and shops had been looted. But the last week it was found safe to extend a barricade into the Mongol Market, and it was there that the soldiers made a ghastly find. In a Chinese house of some importance they found four dead bodies, including that of a little boy. The house had evidently been struck by the Chinese in attempting to shell the Legation, but no shell had struck the inmates. A large box of opium near the bodies told the story of suicide—through fear of Chinese or of foreigners, who knows? The bodies were too far gone for anything but the quickest burial, but the contents of the house were taken into the fortified compound, the clothes distributed or made into more sandbags. Jewelry and other articles were found, but these were laid aside for auction.

MISREPRESENTATIONS.

These auctions were held on the tennis ground, I may state, in the centre of which was a great hole that had been started for a bomb-proof case, this effectually ruining the ground for the tennis games with which some untruthful reporter says that "the besieged whiled away their tedious hours." Hours are not very tedious where men work 18 out of 24. They were usually willing to sleep the remaining six, and we heard of no one in the siege prowling around at night trying to get up a game of tennis on the grounds where for weeks the bullets fell like hail. Since the siege has been lifted no one has done more to misrepresent the whole affair than some ignorant and illiterate reporters who came in with reputable journalists. How men who cannot speak the Queen's English correctly in its commonest phrasing, who, in addition, are rough, swearing bullies, can come to the Far East and represent, or say they do, reputable papers in London and New York, we do not understand. The object of several of the reporters and journalists who came in with the relief troops seemed to be looting. Most of their notes were made when on their way back to Tientsin. One belonging to a great London daily said with an oath, "My —, I'll have to get a boat to take away my loot, but I'll throw away all but fifty rolls of my silk. I shan't keep one worth less than 22 a yard." This man spent several days looting with the Japanese soldiers while perhaps his waiting paper wondered why he did not write or cable oftener. But during the siege the loot was usable, that which was not put in a store room for disposition by the British Government. A little, it is true, was bound to fall into the hands of private indi-

viduals, but so little that it caused no scandal. The book contents of the one Hanlin Library that was saved are, we believe, to be turned over by Sir Claude MacDonald to the British Museum.

ORGANISED LOOTING AFTER THE CAPTURE.

But the 14th August marked a change in the character of looting in general. Several soldiers and civilians who had accompanied them were heard to say openly, "We're here for loot. We never took that hard trip for nothing." The 15th of August found the city of Peking empty of Chinese troops, and the Allied troops free to roam about in regiments or small companies.

COSSACK BRUTALITY.

The Japanese and Russians started energetically to work looting. The Japanese with little fuss captured the Board of Public Works with 2,000,000 taels. But the Russian brutality, as it became wired abroad, horrified everyone. When disappointed in the loot of a house they murdered and did worse without mercy. In two days after the city had been divided into lines, Chinese were fleeing from the Russians, begging to be taken into English American or Japanese lines. Whole families hanged themselves or drowned themselves to escape the brutal Cossack, from whom no man's nor child's life, nor woman's honour was safe. So awful the condition became that it is said Sir Claude MacDonald went to Minister De Giers, and begged him to use some authority in the matter. But the Russian Minister wept and wrung his hands and said that he could do nothing. The French were not far behind the blood-thirsty Cossacks. They killed coolies, women, children, and old men without mercy. They started out to relieve the Peitang, the French Cathedral, where for eight weeks the French fathers, sisters and 45 brave French and Italian soldiers had made such a gallant stand. But they were met with fire from the Chinese sharpshooters hidden at the back of houses, and they retreated to loot, leaving the Peitang until the 16th of August, when the doughty little Japanese went to relieve the fellow-countrymen of the French.

The British and American troops were forbidden to loot, but in two days time the British officers, seeing that all the wealth of Peking was going to the French, Russians, and Japanese, organised official looting. Sikhs went out with their pack-trains and under command of officers, and brought rich trains of loot, silks, furs, jewels and silver, into the British Legation. Some of this loot was sold by auction, the money it is said to go to the British soldiers. The American troops were very sore, as General Chaffee would not withdraw his order against looting, and all the boys could get was by the winking of their officers, many of whom secured some bit of loot themselves, but not in any quantity. The Sikhs, when looting under British command, usually got something out of it for themselves. An extraordinarily fat Sikh, loitering at the tail end of his line, needed but a sign to lift his upper garment and unroll yards and yards of silk from his waist. Some would have wound about their waists and in their turbans as much as sixty yards, or three pieces. These they sold for one or two dollars per piece, if 20 yards long. And so from day to day the looting went on. The Americans one day found within their lines 500,000 taels. The French suddenly discovered that the line was wrongly drawn and drew their guns on the Americans. Investigation was made and the Americans gave in; just as they allowed the Russians to loot from them the Imperial Palace after they had done the fighting necessary to take it, and lost eight men. In the same manner the English and Americans allowed the Russians to take the Empress's summer palace, the railway and arsenal at Tientsin, and every strategic point along the river from Tientsin to Peking. Just as wantonly and brutally as the Russians looted in Peking, leaving their path strewn with fine fabrics trampled in the mud, and more often a human being, just so is Russia preparing to loot the better part of China if the other Allied Powers continue in their present state of apathy.

An automatic telephone on the penny-in-the-slot machine system has been installed in the Shimbashi and Ueno Railway Stations, Japan. It is easily worked and there are two receptacles for the nickel and silver coins.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

H.M.S. *Argonaut* returned to the harbour from practice on the 21st inst.

The P. & O. steamer *Bombay* arrived on the 21st inst., bringing from home the Mounted Balloon Section for service in China, including 78 of all ranks, the officers being Lieut. Col. MacDonald, Captain Hume, and Lieut. Martin Leake; and a very large quantity of material.

The French transport *Caledonien* arrived on the 21st inst. with 27 officers and 1,055 rank and file on board.

The *Ula* left on the 21st inst. for Calcutta.

On the 22nd inst. the British transport *Fullala* returned from Woosung with Government stores on board. The *Upada* also returned from Taku. Both left on the 23rd for Calcutta.

The French transport *Caledonien* left on the 23rd for Taku.

The *Redpole* returned on the 23rd inst. from Canton, where she has been relieved by the *Britonart*.

On the 23rd inst. British transport *Umta* arrived from Calcutta on her second trip, bringing B squadron Jodpore Lancers (1 British and 3 Native officers, 119 N.C.O.'s and men, and 83 followers); a section of the 53rd Native Field Hospital (1 British officer, 5 men, and 65 followers); 4 British Staff officers, with followers; and a number of horses and mules.

The *Nevasa* also arrived on the 23rd inst. from Calcutta on her second trip, bringing nine British officers, and details of the Advance Depot, Ordnance Field Park, Medical and Military Store Depots, British General Hospital, 15th, 51st, and 62nd Native Field Hospitals.

The British transport *Rajah* arrived on the 24th inst. from Calcutta, bringing the following British officers:—Capt. Jackson, Quin, and Oakes, Lieuts. Branson, Colson, and Beasley, and 2nd Lieut. Manson; and a number of siege train bullocks.

The French cruiser *Chasseloup Laubat* also arrived on the 24th inst., having left Saigon on the 21st inst.

H.M. gunboat *Redpole* went out on the 24th for practice.

The German transport *Gera* arrived from the South on the 24th instant accompanied by three German torpedo-boats from Singapore.

H. M. S. *Redpole* returned on the 25th inst. from practice.

The British transport *Vadala* arrived on the 26th inst. from Calcutta, bringing 7 R. E. officers, 1 British and 6 native officers, 155 N. C. O.'s and men, with 66 followers, of the Maler Kotat Sappers and Miners, and details of the 53rd Native Field Hospital, the Engineer Field Park, and Orderlies of the 4th Brigade.

Two river gunboats which have been constructed recently for the French Government to be used on the West River left the harbour on the 26th inst. on a firing trial.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN MOVE ON PEITANG.

An explanation has been given us by a recent arrival from the north of the late Russo-German move on Peitang, on the Tonku-Shanhaikwan line. When the Peking line had passed entirely into Russian hands, it appears, the British Admiral was urged to secure Tongshang on the Shanhaikwan line, between Peitang and Lutai. At Tongshang are a number of repairing-sheds, the materials from which are required for the repair of the railway. The Admiral, however, did not see his way to do this, and consequently the Russians and Germans have undertaken the task, beginning by capturing the Peitang Forts and town. The importance of this move lies in the fact that Shankaikwan is an ice-free port, whereas Taku in winter is ice-bound. The holders of Shanhaikwan and the coast railway from it to Tonku will therefore be at a great advantage.

ALLEGED RUSSO-GERMAN UNDERSTANDING.

The *Jiji's* correspondent writes from Taku to his paper, under date 9th September, that Russia contemplates the annexation of the whole of the districts lying north of the Peking walls, and that Germany desires to absorb

Shantung and Kiangsu. The Tokyo paper editorially comments on this piece of intelligence in the most guarded manner, but hints that there is some foundation in it, and thinks that is also entertained among diplomatic circles in Peking. The same correspondent reports that Russia, instead of diminishing her troops, will reinforce the 12,000 already stationed in Peking. Another equally sensational item of news in the same journal is that a considerable force of German troops will march overland to certain points along the Yangtzekiang, by way of Haichow and Su-chow.

AN "IMPERIAL" DECREE.

The following alleged Imperial decree was issued on the 7th inst. at Taiyuanfu the provincial capital of Shansi:—

"We have successfully escorted the Empress Dowager to take temporary refuge here in Taiyuanfu while, in the meantime, we had already commanded the Grand Secretaries, Yung Lu, Hsu Tung, and K'un Kang, the High Ministers Ch'ung Li (Commander of the Peking Gendarmerie), Yu Tê Chin Sing, P'u Shan, A K'ê-tan, Na Tung and Ch'en K'uei-lung, to remain in Peking to conduct the Government and we have now again sent Prince Chang, 1st Order, to Peking to meet Li Hung-chang and in conjunction with him to negotiate matters with the various Powers. Now the present difficulties first arose through the Iho-chuan (Boxers) commencing trouble and it is therefore necessary to root them out and stop up the fountain of their origin. We cannot restore order unless we earnestly attack and suppress them. The Boxers (they are not termed "Outlaws" as should be the case if the Empress Dowager's advisers were truly earnest about it) are like rank grass and flourish in Chihli more than anywhere else. Before Li Hung-chang arrives in Chihli, therefore, we command Ting Yung, acting Viceroy of said province, to begin at once to obey our orders and to transmit them to the civil and military officers under him to make strict search for and assist to the best of their ability to root out and utterly destroy these Boxers. Should it hereafter appear that these Boxers still continue to march about in bands creating disorder in the country and denying the Government authorities, we look to the said acting Viceroy to lead his troops and exert himself to destroy them in order to clear the country of those pests and give the masses peace."

(This, of course, does not refer to the large guard of Boxers who are with the Empress Dowager, says the *N. C. Daily News*, from whom we take the translation and comments).

THE ATTACK ON PEITANG FORTS.

Mr. J. C. Hemment, a war correspondent from Peking and Tientsin, gave the *N. C. Daily News* the following account of the attack on the Peitang forts:—

We arrived at Tientsin, from Yangtsun, on Wednesday, the 19th inst. At about three o'clock in the afternoon we noticed that the German troops were moving, and on asking what was taking place we were informed that an attack was to be made on the forts at Peitang. The German troops boarded the train and the band played them away. A detachment of French Artillery had come down to Tientsin, but I am not certain whether they took part in the attack. We entered the train with the troops. On arrival at Chunliangcheng the greater part of the German troops disembarked. These were to form the centre of the attacking party, and the Russians were to have the left position. Two companies went on to Tangku and after disembarking, assembled there and waited until 11 p.m. When we got into the station we waited there and at last we heard that an attack was to be made that night. The Germans were joined by the Russians encamped there, supplemented by some Russians from the men-of-war. At about 12 p.m. the German Colonel and his Staff-officers had a consultation with the Russian Colonel and his Staff and a train was immediately put together, all the officers taking command of their companies. Knowing that two other correspondents had been seen and sent back, we hid in a flat car at the rear of the train and managed to accompany the troops unobserved. The train proceeded about four miles and then the troops disembark-

ed. We branched off to the right and got into a terrible plight, having to wade through salt ponds and mud until our clothes were only fit to be thrown away. Finally we extricated ourselves and hearing firing all around thought it wisest to get with the troops so joined the Germans.

About 2 a.m. the Russian artillery opened fire and had fired six shots before there was any reply from the forts. Then the forts opened fire on the left (South) and soon the firing continued all along the line from four different positions, towards the right. They were firing shrapnel which continually burst over and around us. The firing was very lively and the Chinese gunners made very good practice. We advanced with the infantry, leaving the artillery in the rear to cover us. The advance continued about two miles, and then at daybreak the attack began in earnest. The Chinese had got splendid range, but I could not make out what damage they were doing. Shells were pouring on to our section from the Southern fort.

We advanced steadily for about a mile and the firing continued. Suddenly a mine exploded on our left. This seemed to enrage the troops but the artillery continued firing very steadily. About five minutes afterwards another mine exploded with a terrific roar. It must have been about 200 yards in length and caught the Russians and Germans like an earthquake. Two mounted officers and their ponies were blown into the air and what was left of them dropped within about twenty yards of where we were standing. The Russians ran pell-mell and so did we, for no one knew where the next mine might explode. The explosion was followed by more firing and our troops began to collect and get in their wounded.

Up to this time the Infantry had not fired a shot. For a time all was confusion and we could see nothing, but at 7 o'clock we noticed that the shells were going right into the forts. Soon we saw volumes of smoke and this was followed by flames: the forts were on fire. Two of the Chinese guns on the right (North) of the forts had now been put out of action as had also one of our guns in the centre. Only one gun was now firing from the forts, and this kept on pretty regularly, firing a shot about every three minutes. The firing then gradually became less, and about 8 o'clock a heavy rain commenced and we had to move away to preserve our cameras and apparatus from the rain. As we returned we met the trains and ambulances coming up. We also learnt that an advance was to be made at once and the forts were to be occupied. The artillery were proceeding as we left. That evening two British guns came up by train. They had Lyddite ammunition and were ready to be of use wherever they were required. Two or three miles out, however, the road was completely blocked and the Germans said that it was impossible to clear the way for them so they never came into action at all.

THE JAPANESE EMPEROR AND THE TROOPS.

The Emperor of Japan has addressed the following message to the Army and Navy:—"Fighting amid great heat in a strange land, our military and naval forces, in co-operation with those of Foreign Powers, have overcome obstacles and conquered a stout resistance, discharging their duty ably, and finally reaching Peking and accomplishing the object of saving the Ministers. We strongly applaud this achievement, and we trust that our forces will continue their zealous discharge of our commands, and their careful observance of discipline, to the further enhancement of our Empire's military reputation."

This message was accompanied by various presents for the troops and was conveyed by an Imperial Chamberlain to the officers commanding at sea and on shore, by whom suitable replies were made.

THE PUNISHMENT OF THE GUILTY.

The following Chinese official despatch emanates from Shansi:—A memorial of the 2nd inst. from Li Hung-chang, containing the requests of the various Foreign Powers before peace negotiations would be permitted, amongst which is that of the demand for the execution of Prince Tuan and Kang-yi, elicited the following Re-

script from the Empress Dowager, dated Chichou, Shansi, 8th September, where the Court happened to be then:—"We can consent to all the demands mentioned in Li Hung-chang's memorials with but one exception—that relating to Tuan and Kang-yi. As the troubles mentioned were due to many persons, their guilt should be dealt with according to their several degrees; therefore we are bound to make a careful investigation before doing the thing requested."

The *N.-C. Daily News* learns from Shanghai mandarin sources that Li Hung-chang drew up a memorial to the Empress Dowager on the 13th instant demanding the punishment of Prince Tuan, Kang-yi, and others of the instigators and authors of the Boxer rebellion, and to make the appeal stronger got Viceroy Liu Kung-yi and Chang Chih-tung, and Governor Yuan Shih-kai to join their names to his. Our contemporary also hears from Wuchang that a day previous to the sending of the above memorial, Chang Chih-tung sent a memorial denouncing General Tung Fuhsiang and demanding his punishment.

TIENTSIN NEWS.

Gen. Lorne Campbell took over command of the British forces in Tientsin on the 12th inst.

The British Head-quarters have been transferred from Ewo to the Taku Tug and Lighter Co.'s premises, entrance on the Bund.

The British Military authorities at Tientsin have issued the following circular:—"All houses, godowns and property in and around Tientsin owned by British subjects, must not be sold or let without first applying to the general officer commanding British troops, Tientsin."

Major Bond, who has charge of the British Commissariat Department, is back in Tientsin for a short time. Under his able administration the Department has become so efficient in all details that it has provoked flattering comment from even Japan, who recognises that the manifold nature of our army requirements involve far greater responsibilities and organization than her own limited demands.

Col. Henry Clay Cochran has arrived and taken command of the 1st Regt. U. S. Marines.

Mr. Jeanrenaud has been appointed Sanitary Inspector to the Provisional Government, Tientsin City.

THE NAVAL YARD EXTENSION.

MR. MAX GROTE OBJECTS TO THE NOISE.

At the Magistracy on the 24th inst. Mr. J. L. Houston, as representing the firm of contractors engaged in the extension of the Naval Yard, appeared in answer to two summonses issued at the instance of Mr. Max Grote, bill broker. The first summons alleged that on the 21st of September and various other dates prior to it the defendant unlawfully did make or cause to be made a noise or noises calculated to disturb, annoy, or interfere with the public tranquility and the quiet of the occupiers and inhabitants of dwelling houses within the town of Victoria and its vicinity. The second summons alleged that the defendant on the 21st September and various other dates prior to that did in, near, and adjoining a public road or thoroughfare, namely H.M. Naval Yard, wantonly and unnecessarily make a noise by driving piles calculated to annoy the inhabitants in the vicinity. Mr. Looker appeared for the complainant and Mr. Wilkinson for the defence.

Some argument took place as to an application by Mr. Wilkinson for an adjournment until Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Looker opposing on the ground that the application should have been made in the morning, so that he could have informed his witnesses, who were ready to give evidence. Under the circumstances the application was disallowed.

The complainant said he was a broker in Hongkong. On the night of the 21st inst. he was disturbed by a noise which came from the Naval Yard Extension. It was occasioned by a sharp escape of steam, the fall of a hammer, the noise of the pile-driver and of the iron hitting the piles. It disturbed him from the time he got home in an evening to when he left for business in the morning, and had prevented him from sleeping ever since it had started.

Last Sunday night it had prevented him from sleeping for four hours, and the effect of the noise had prejudiced his health generally.

In answer to Mr. Wilkinson the complainant said he had been living in Hongkong altogether for 27 years. His health had always been good and he had not of late consulted a doctor with respect to insomnia. The distance between his house and the Naval Yard was about 500 yards. He only heard the noise at night because of the surrounding quietness. He did not notice it on the ground floor; the sounds annoyed him about the time he went to bed. He said he most certainly slept with open windows, of which there were four facing the harbour. He noticed the noise five or six days ago. He sometimes suffered from gout and it disturbed his rest somewhat when it was severe, which was very seldom. He had lost six pounds in weight within the last six days. The escape of steam and the noise of the hammering, etc., were repeated every five or ten seconds at regular intervals. He was a medium sleeper and was frequently disturbed, the steamers often waking him with their whistles.

Mr. A. G. Morris said he lived on the Kennedy Road. He had been very much disturbed the last four or five days by two steam pile-drivers on the Naval Yard reclamation. The noise prevented him from sleeping. It was a sharp escape of steam and the fall of a hammer. On the first night, he thought it was Thursday, he scarcely had any sleep in consequence of the noise. The following nights were just the same. Up to the present he had not been able to accustom himself to the noise at all. It made him feel very sleepy during the daytime.

In answer to Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Morris said he had lived in Hongkong for over thirty years, and in his present house since February last. Until these noises began he had considered the vicinity of Kennedy Road one of the quietest he had ever been in. He had got used to the perfect quietness, when suddenly the obnoxious noise started. He was a good sleeper but a light one. He, of course, slept with open windows, of which he had three to his room, two facing the east and one the north. On the first night he had the northern window closed, and the others open. The two eastern windows were practically right over the place where the noise came from. The following nights, as an experiment, he closed the eastern window and opened the other, thinking to deaden the sound. But he was still disturbed, and did not derive much benefit by the experiment. He now had the eastern windows open. His sleep had only very slightly improved since the first night.

Mr. Thos. Arnold, secretary to the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., said he lived at No. 4, Lower Albany. His rest had been disturbed during the last five nights by some hammering at the Naval Reclamation occasioned by steam pile driving. The first night he scarcely slept at all. The second he got up at two o'clock and closed his windows. This lessened the sound a little but he was still kept awake by it.

In reply to Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Arnold said three of his windows face the Public Gardens, and two face the Garden Road. He kept them open in the hot weather. They were open on the first night but he closed them on the second. Then the heat prevented him from sleeping, although he could not hear the noise so much as before. The first night he had no sleep; since then he has had only an hour or two in a night.

Mr. Looker said that this was the case for the prosecution.

The further hearing was adjourned until the following Wednesday afternoon.

The hearing was resumed on the 26th inst.

Mr. Wilkinson submitted that there had been no evidence adduced on behalf of the prosecution sufficient to enable his worship to convict his client of either offence.

His Worship: We have nothing to do with the second case.

Mr. Wilkinson said that the summons was taken out under Ordinance 17 of 1844. He submitted that under that Ordinance it was absolutely necessary for the prosecution to prove that the noise complained of was unnecessarily and unreasonably made. He was quite prepared

to admit that section one did not state anything to that effect; but after a very short consideration of that section he had no doubt his Worship would come to the conclusion that if it was read by itself without reference to any other part of the Ordinance, then the enactment would be found to be both unjust, absurd, and mischievous. The section said:—"From and after the publication of this Ordinance no person whatsoever shall, between sunset and the hour of six in the following morning make, or cause to be made, any noises whatever calculated to disturb, annoy, or interfere with the public tranquility or the quiet of the occupier or inhabitant of any dwelling house within the said town of Victoria or its vicinity," etc. The noise might be of any kind, according to this section. The section said any noise made by any person. Therefore any person who was afflicted with consumption, and who had a hacking cough which was calculated to annoy another person at night, could be proceeded against according to this section, but it would be the height of absurdity for any one to proceed against him. He did not know whether Mr. Grote snored or not; if he did it was calculated to annoy another inhabitant of the house, but it would be utterly absurd for Mr. Grote to be prosecuted for snoring. To show how mischievous it would be to read section one by itself, Mr. Wilkinson observed that supposing these works were completed, and it was necessary for the Admiralty to repair some vessel and work both night and day it would be competent for a member of any nation which was not particularly friendly to Great Britain to stop the night work in such a case. For an explanation of the Ordinance they should turn to the preamble which said:—"Whereas the inhabitants of Victoria and its vicinity have hitherto been disturbed and annoyed during the night time by various loud and unnecessary noises, made by private watchmen and other persons to such an extent as to become a public nuisance," etc. This showed that the intention of the Legislature was to prevent the repetition of these "loud and unnecessary noises" to such an extent as to become a public nuisance. In this case there had been no evidence adduced or suggested by the prosecution that the noises were in any degree unnecessary. As a matter of fact he was in a position to prove that they were absolutely necessary, and he submitted that it was impossible to convict his client under Ordinance 17 of 1844. Section two also showed clearly what the intention of the Legislature was. It provided that employees, such as watchmen, should be made liable for these noises. In this case, according to section two, the defendant could not possibly be held responsible, because he did not come under the description of employee. Mr. Wilkinson was proceeding with his argument when his Worship suggested that he should call his witnesses.

The defendant, on being called, said he was a partner in the firm engaged on the Naval Yard extension. They were under a contract with the Admiralty to construct certain works defined in a contract and specification, and in carrying out those works he took directions from the superintendent civil engineer here. That was Mr. Ordish. They were now driving piles to form the foundation of the graving dock, the principal part of the scheme. They were working night and day under the direction of Mr. Ordish. It was absolutely necessary in order to complete the work within a reasonable time to work at night.

In reply to Mr. Looker, the defendant said the site of the work was a piece of foreshore partly reclaimed and the ground was very hard. The pile-driving was being done at night by his direction. He thought they could do the pile-driving without the escape of steam. The point had never been called attention to before, but they were experimenting now, and he thought they would be able to avoid the noise made by the escape of steam. They had not made any experiments with the view of lessening the noise made by the hammer. He did not think it would be possible to reduce the noise made by the hammer.

His Worship suggested that as an attempt was being made to reduce the noise the case should be adjourned to see whether the attempt was successful or not.

Mr. Looker said his client was agreeable to this, and the case was adjourned until Wednesday next.

COLLAPSE OF A BUILDING IN HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

TWO KILLED AND FOUR SERIOUSLY INJURED.

The fact that many of the older buildings in the city are a standing danger to the community and require a thorough over-hauling is brought home to the authorities from time to time by the collapse of a building either in one part of the city or another. These occurrences are almost invariably accompanied by loss of life, but the authorities seem powerless to do any thing to prevent them, and we may expect that they will continue to happen.

A sad affair took place in Hollywood Road on the 25th inst. At about half-past nine the occupants of No. 42 were terrified by hearing a tremendous crash proceeding from the back part of the premises. They soon learned that the cookhouses had collapsed, the top one having first given way and carried all before it. Acting Chief Inspector Kemp, Assistant Engineer Robertson and several members of the Fire Brigade were on the spot with all speed with a view to rescuing any one who might be buried in the debris. They had no light task before them, as in consequence of the space being but small the debris was several feet in depth. They soon came across a woman and a little girl, who were near the surface and had probably come down with the top storey. They were taken to the Hospital unconscious. They were badly injured about the head, and it was evident that it was not at all likely that they would recover. Another woman and girl were also sent to the Hospital in a precarious state. The police worked with a will at the huge pile of rubbish in the hope that more of the occupants might be still alive under the boards, but the hope was not realised. Towards noon the dead bodies of another woman and girl were found terribly crushed and battered. All yesterday the work of clearing away the debris was continued. It was not thought that there was anyone in the basement, which is only used as a store for old iron.

No one making an inspection of the premises can wonder at the building collapsing, as the floors seem to have been most inadequately supported. We are given to understand that the enforcing of the regulation as to backyards has something to do with this. At one time there were two gangways leading from the living rooms to the cook-houses. The gangway beams acted as a support to the floors, also to the walls. In order to comply with the regulations and to give more light and air one gangway on each floor was removed; hence the reduction of the support to the floors and walls. We shall not be surprised to learn of other collapses in the same block. On visiting the back of the adjoining house our representative was shown a water-trough which reached right to the top of the block. It was leaking in innumerable places and seemed to have made the bricks here and there as soft as putty.

THE VOLUNTEERS' CONCERT.

The promenade concert given on Wednesday night, 26th inst., under the auspices of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps was a brilliant success. The entertainment, which was organised for a most deserving object—in aid of the Ladies' Military Hospital Fund—was honoured with the attendance of H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry Blake, Lady Blake and Miss Blake, Viscount Suidale, A.D.C., Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., and Mrs. Gascoigne, Captain the Hon. H.W. Trefusis, A.D.C., and many ladies and military officers. The event took place in the open-air on the Volunteer Parade Ground, which was prettily decorated with coloured lanterns for the purpose, an impromptu stage being erected in front of the headquarters.

By the courtesy of Major Everitt and officers the Band of the 2nd Royal Welsh Fusiliers was in attendance and contributed much to the success of the evening. The programme was admirably arranged and the first part opened with the march "Tannhauser" (Wagner) by the Band. Mr. George Lammert was next heard in one of the best solos of the evening, in the old but ever attractive song "My Sweetheart when a Boy," receiving deserved applause. Private G. Townley, A. O. C., was loudly applauded for his cornet solo "The Last

Chord," which he rendered most effectively. The vocalist of the evening was of course Mr. Alec Marsh, who sang "The King's Minstrel" in splendid style. Sergt. F. R. Viggers, A. O. C., provided a diversion with his comic song "I'm looking at yer," being recalled. Mr. E. E. Hill, who possesses a pleasing tenor voice, but whose enunciation was somewhat weak, sang "The Queen of the Earth," and was followed by the Trio from "Faust" (Gounod), sung by Messrs Lammert, Marsh and Schmidt with much success. The Band performed two pieces, "Mikado" and "Mignon," and Mr. Alec Marsh sang the Toreador's song from "Carmen," which was the best solo of the evening, and on being recalled gave his special rendering of "Old Simon, the Cellarer," which was much enjoyed. Sergeant Robertson, R.W.F., was deservedly applauded for his flute solo, Fantasia on "La Sonnambula," as was also Mr. W. J. Terrill for his song "The Deathless Army"—though he also was somewhat indistinct. Sergt. Viggers again created much amusement with his funny songs "Sticking Out" and "In the Suburbs," and Mr. Grace, an old favourite, gave an excellent rendering of "Ho, Jolly Jenkin." The duet "Love and War," by Messrs. Marsh and Geo. Lammert, followed, and was much appreciated, the entertainment closing with the descriptive piece "The Dance of Demons," by the Band. The attendance was large and the Fund should reap a substantial benefit from the concert. The Volunteers did everything to make every one comfortable and all arrangements worked most successfully. The accompanist, Mr. A. G. Ward, deserves praise for his contribution to the entertainment, for he was indispensable.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE S.S. STANLEY.

The Hongkong Government has just augmented its gradually increasing fleet of small craft, with a steamer, which the Government Marine Surveyor described to our representative, as being "One of the stoutest-built boats ever turned out of the Hongkong yards." The name of the vessel is the *Stanley*, called after the early settlement on the east side of the island, and in addition to the tribute of being well built she has earned much praise for the gracefulness of her lines and her smart appearance generally. The *Stanley* was contracted for to run ten and a half knots an hour—the Government demanding that as the maximum speed, though they had no objection if other essential points—accommodation and draught—were not sacrificed, for the boat to travel quicker. On the trial trip on Wednesday afternoon the *Stanley* did easily twelve knots over the measured two mile course, a result any builder might be gratified with; had the steamer been fresh from the slip she would have improved even on that.

The *Stanley*, henceforth to be known locally as "The Governor's Yacht," is an outcome of what is now popularly described as "territorial grab." Her introduction to the world was due to the acquisition of the New Territory, and her chief work will be to convey the officials to and from the colonial lighthouses, including those taken over from the Chinese Government. Should any trouble in the New Territory necessitate the transportation of bodies of police to any given coast point, the *Stanley* will be called upon to fill that function. In addition she has been fitted up with such a degree of comfort that H.E. the Governor might well be pleased to use it on his expeditions, and thus ensure its permanence to the claim of being "The Governor's Yacht."

The *Stanley* is painted white, with buff funnel, and presents a very smart and yacht-like appearance; she is schooner-rigged and the funnel and pole masts have just a nice sheer which harmonizes well with the lines of the boat. On her trial trip on Wednesday she attracted much interest among the nautical spectators, and her builders may rightly claim the reward of success due to their labours. On the trial the Government were represented by the Hon'ble B. Taylor, Acting Harbour Master, and Mr. Macdonald, Government Marine Surveyor. The contractors, Messrs. Carmichael and Barlow, were present and a representative of this paper. The

designers of the *Stanley*, Messrs. Carmichael and Barlow, are to be heartily congratulated on having produced such a handsome specimen of naval architecture, amidst the harassing conditions that surround industrial enterprise in Hongkong—especially in the matter of labour. The vessel is built of teak and fastened throughout with Muntz metal fastenings, and her dimensions are 120 feet b.p., by 20' by 10' of scantlings, considerably in excess of the requirements of Lloyds or the Board of Trade. The general arrangement of the vessel is as follows:—A teak deck-house forward of the engine and boiler compartment, containing a commodious saloon with accommodation for seating ten persons at dining table. The interior of the deckhouse is of polished teak and nicely upholstered in leather. There are two private cabins opening on to the saloon, which are fitted with folding wash-stands, wardrobes, drawers, etc. The main deckhouse also contains a commodious bathroom and pantry. Accommodation for the captain is provided for in a teak deck house aft of the engine-room compartment. A covered companion aft of the captain's room leads to the quarters of the crew, where bunks are fitted up for twelve hands. Forward of the saloon on the main deck a covered companion leads to the "troop" deck, where there is ample space for the accommodation of fifty men, which will prove useful should occasion necessitate the rapid transport of Police to the New Territory. On the bridge-deck the steering gear and other adjuncts for the navigation of the vessel are fitted. The engines are compound surface condensing of the inverted cylinder type, designed to indicate 325 horse power; the boiler is multitubular, with two furnaces built to Board of Trade rules for a working pressure of 120 lbs. per square inch. A powerful steam windlass with capstan head, is fitted on the fore part of the main deck. A strong derrick and the necessary gear for lifting buoys, heavy moorings, etc., is also provided.

The trial was accomplished in fine weather with a smooth sea and was highly satisfactory in every way, the machinery working splendidly and the boiler providing an ample supply of steam: a speed of twelve knots was easily obtained. After the trial, refreshments were served and the health of the contractors and prosperity to the *Stanley* were drunk. The trial trip was a most gratifying success. The contractors are also engaged on the building of Police launches for patrolling the waters of the New Territory.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 20th September.

ANTI-MISSION RIOTS IN EHON TAK.

News has reached here that a riot occurred yesterday in the three market-towns, Kum Chuk, Lung Ngan and Tong Lee, in the district of Shon Tak, distant about four hours by steam to the south-west of Canton, and that three mission houses were destroyed by the mob. There were about 100 Christian families in Shon Tak and most of them have left and come to Canton. The French gunboat *Avalanche* has left this morning at 8 a.m. for the scene of disturbance, and Chinese soldiers were sent there about the same time. It is said that about ten days before the riot the French Consul brought the threatening aspect of affairs to the notice of the Acting Viceroy Tak; but through the dilatory notions of the Chinese officials the matter has been allowed to run on until it reached its present climax. It is said, however, that the places are beginning to quiet down already.

Canton, 22nd September.

CANTON REVENUE GOES NORTH.

The Provincial Treasurer Ting has sent, by the weiyuin Wong and To, the Canton revenue to Shansi by overland route across the North River, for the support of the Imperial family.

PROTECTING THE SALT MONEY.

The revenue collected from the salt monopoly is immense, and on account of the troubles in the north might, it is feared, have tempted bandits from other provinces to the South to join with the local bad characters, to attack and rob the Treasury. The Salt Commission has requested the Commander of the On Yung regiment to put two hundred soldiers, some at the

front door of the yamen, others at the east and west sides, for its protection, large mat-sheds being erected there for their accommodation.

THE TROOPS SHORT OF ARMS.

The export of arms from foreign countries having been prohibited and the Chinese regiments being very much in need of them, a weiyuin, Tang, has fallen upon the expedient of manufacturing blunderbusses of the oldest fashion, and long match-lock muskets, each to be carried by two men, for the use of the native armies. Patterns of the same have been submitted to the Acting Viceroy Tak Sow, who gladly approved of them, and ordered a large quantity to be made as quickly as possible.

LOCAL DISTURBANCES INCREASING.

It was said that after the departure of Li Hung-chang robbery would increase, and in fact it has increased daily. A rising of local banditti is said to have broken out in Kit Sheak in the province of Kwangtung, which necessitates the officials sending troops to suppress it. The destruction of all the mission houses and chapels, and the houses of the native converts in Satow, Tai Liak, and Yung Ki, was reported during the last two days, and the aspect of affairs in Shon Tak is not much improving. It is said that the disturbances were incited and connived at by the officials and gentry because of the rumours which have been spreading for some time from Canton to the interior, that the Chinese troops at Peking had gained a victory over the allied forces.

A SUCCESSFUL RAID.

On the night of the 19th ult. some two or three hundred armed landits went by boat and by land, and attacked four or five dye-shops near Fatee public gardens. The alarm was given, but no assistance was forthcoming, owing to the large number of the bandits, whom the few soldiers stationed there were afraid to encounter. It is said that only one thief (perhaps some innocent man) has been arrested after all the rest had decamped. The property lost amounted to a few hundred dollars.

OUTRAGE NEAR SHAMEEN.

On the night of the 20th inst. four persons were shot dead somewhere near the eating houses opposite the north and west sides of Shameen, known as Santin Fee (a new reclamation ground). The singing girls there are accustomed to go to the eating-houses to sing and accompany their guests at tiffin, dinner, or supper. It so happened that on the night of the 20th two or three girls went with their servants to an eating-house. On their way a Chinaman inadvertently trod on the foot of one of the girls; she screamed and scolded him, and the servants, who are always armed with revolvers when on these expeditions, joined in and fought a pitched battle with the offending Chinaman and his party, four being killed and a few wounded. Then some soldiers came up and put a stop to the affair.

MORE RIVER PIRACIES.

The port of Sai Nam lies between the North and West Rivers and is under the jurisdiction of the Sam Sui district. Steam-launches with boats in tow and stern-wheelers are running daily between there and Canton and Fatsan. Some time last month a stern-wheeler, the *Hung Fat*, laden with cargo and passengers, on her way to Canton, was attacked by pirates. Upon the complaint of her captain to the Magistrate of Nam Hoi the matter was investigated, but to this day no arrest has been made, and the case is still pending. The boat ceased travelling for some time until the 14th ult., when she started on her voyage again from Canton to Sai Nam. Just in the middle of her journey, near Sew Tong, she sighted several "snake-boats" rapidly approaching. Upon a certain signal being given by some pirates on board, disguised as passengers, the pirates in the "snake-boats" boarded her. They produced revolvers and overawing the captain and crew proceeded to overturn and ransack all the boxes and luggage of the passengers, took away whatever valuables they could lay their hands upon, and then departed. The property lost was worth over a thousand dollars and the case has been brought to the cognisance of the local authorities.

A MANCHU EMBUTE.

On the 17th ult., in the afternoon, there were large forces of native soldiers, cavalry, the Eighth Banner regiment, and the foreign-drilled infantry drawn up in line in front and surrounding the east and west sides of the

Tartar-General's yamen. The crowd in the streets near by was in a great state of excitement, and it was not till a late hour at night that it dispersed. The facts of the matter were these. A Manchu graduate, by name Ching On, was educated in the Tung Wen Kwan Government School. One of his countrymen, a Manchu, had an old grudge against him, and because he was a student of English, spread the news that he had a good deal to do with foreigners. So this Manchu, together with a number of associates, went into the house of Ching On and committed an assault upon him, his family and servants, and smashed all his furniture. Being himself a Manchu, Ching On brought the matter to the notice of the Tartar-General. The latter ordered an officer of his army to arrest and bring the chief perpetrator of the crime, together with his associates, for trial. The officer, being afraid of provoking public resentment and ill-feeling against himself, went and tried to patch up the matter by payment of 1,000 taels for damage done to persons and property. At first Ching On agreed to the offer, but the neighbours, consisting mostly of Manchus, strenuously opposed it. Ching On thus could not do otherwise but go straight to the Tartar-General, and appeal for justice. The Tartar-General again gave peremptory orders to his officer to have the offender arrested and brought to trial. The Manchus were very much dissatisfied, and indignantly threatened to pull down the Tartar-General's yamen. The troops were accordingly placed there for its protection. Further no officials were allowed by the populace to visit or go into the yamen to transact any official business.

Canton, 23rd September.

RIOTS NEAR CANTON.

It is said that grave disturbances have broken out in the Ping Po village somewhere near the Macao Fort, a short distance from Canton. The Pun Yui Magistrate, under whose jurisdiction the locality lies, by order of the Acting Viceroy took a large number of troops and proceeded thither at once on Saturday night to suppress the rioting.

THE TRIADS ACTIVE.

In the Chung Chuin village, also not far from Canton, there are already 20,000 men of the Triad Society, who use this place as their basis for collecting more men preparatory to rebellion.

ATTACKS ON CONVERTS.

In Nam Kong, near Sun Tong, in the neighbourhood of Whampoa, the inhabitants are ill-treating the native converts and have obliterated the names of the chapels. General Ma Kai Tong took 4,000 soldiers and proceeded thither to preserve order.

THREATS AGAINST A FRENCH GUNBOAT.

Report says that the French gunboat *Avalanche* remains at anchor at Kumchuk, and that the Chinese threaten that if she does anything they will use all their forces to destroy her.

These, of course, are rumours, but as was the case in the north, rumours sometimes turn out serious.

Canton, 25th September.

THE ANTI-CHRISTIAN RIOTS.

There are in Canton a large number of bad characters who make it their business to fabricate and circulate freely false rumours, with a view to incite the ignorant mob to disturbance. So much is this so that they have invented and put into circulation a false Imperial Edict, of which I give below a translation. This Edict was the cause of all the recent local troubles, and the printer and publisher of it has been traced out and arrested by the Namhoi Magistrate. The guilty party is Chang So, of the Kung Son printing office, Canton, and his business is to print and publish the *Peking Gazette*. Incited by such wilful, malicious and seditious publications the inhabitants of the villages of Wong Lin, Luk Lao, Kanka Wai, Lung Ngan, Kum Chuk, Mak Chün, U Chung, Tong Lee, Hang Tan (in Shon Tak), Tai Yap, Tai Fan, Sai Wa, Satow, Lung Kong, and Lung Shan, all in Kwangtung, who are mostly thieves and rogues, only too glad to avail themselves of this opportunity to enrich themselves by the misery of others, broke into and pulled down all chapels, mission-houses, and dwellings of the native converts and carried away whatever valuables they could lay their hands upon. Not to mention any individual case, it may be generally said that the missionaries and their con-

verts, mostly Roman Catholics, were grossly insulted, ill-treated, and rendered homeless and penniless; and the privations and hardships suffered at the hands of their inhuman tormentors were such as are easier to imagine than describe. Thousands of them have been obliged to seek an asylum either in Hongkong, Macao, or Canton, to escape with their lives from the infuriated mobs. It was by an arrangement with the Chinese authorities that the French gunboat *Avalanche* went up with the mandarins, soldiers, and boats to the scene of disturbance to preserve order and rescue the persecuted Christians.

THE FALSE EDICT.

The pretended Edict was set forth as follows:—"An Imperial Edict received on the 10th of the 8th moon (3rd Sept.) says that since the Japanese rebellion against this Empire in 1894 the Minister Kang (Yu-wei) did things so derogatory to the dignity of our country that the foreign nations despised and ill-treated us, so that our ministers and people alike with one mind hate them. Fortunately this time we have gained a great victory, which is really the miraculous manifestation of our ancestors, through the joint efforts of our soldiery and people. We might have joined ourselves in one body for a last effort to make a clean sweep of the foreigners, so as to give vent to our feelings of indignation and uphold the dignity of our country. We had wished to avail ourselves of this victorious opportunity to destroy the evil races once and for all, but that our Government is still liberal and benevolent, that we have had commercial intercourse with the different countries for several decades of years, that the foreigners in the concessions are mostly wealthy, and that if we make a wholesale slaughter of them it would be injurious to our universal harmony. So we have ordered Viceroy Yu Lu and the Viceroys and Governors of the provinces to communicate this Edict to the Consuls of the different nations, to inform their ministers that if they be repentant and ashamed of their former acts, they will be still allowed to trade peacefully in China, on condition that they agree to the following five Treaty articles within one hundred days. If any nations agree not to this Treaty, General Tung Fuhsiang has orders to lead troops and chase them beyond our boundaries; if they resist they shall be totally destroyed. We send this Edict, together with the Treaty, from six hundred miles off post haste for your information."

THE TREATY.

1. The thirteen countries together must pay China an indemnity for military expenses of 1,300 million taels.
2. Kang Yu-wei must be handed over to China.
3. Any territorial concessions that have been granted to foreign nations for commercial purposes must be converted into public international territory where a Consul of each nation shall be appointed to reside to take care exclusively of foreigners, and all cases where Chinese are concerned in the matter of this Treaty shall be adjusted according to Chinese law.
4. Every national is allowed merely to trade in China, and no missionaries shall be permitted to go into the interior to preach the gospel. If any Chinese who have been converted to Christianity shall repent of their faults they shall be allowed to change their religion and follow Confucianism again, and no further investigation shall be made about the matter.
5. Any territorial concessions that have been exacted by any foreign nations since 1894 shall be returned to China within three months.

STRONG OFFICIAL MEASURES.

With reference to the above the Nam Hoi and Pun-yu Magistrates on the 20th inst. jointly issued a proclamation, stating that on account of the great number of rumours which have caused a wrong impression on the people's minds, the newspapers have been suppressed by order of the Viceroy; that of late it has been found out that some people have been audacious enough to print and publish a false Edict; that the printing and publishing of it was traced to a certain man, by name Chang So, of the Kung Son office, whose business was to print and publish *Peking Gazettes*; that he on trial confessed that it was printed by mistake; that the Magistrates have ordered his type and blocks to be destroyed, and himself to be kept in prison for further investigation. That according to Chinese law any person or persons that print or publish any

false edicts shall be visited with capital punishment, while for minor offences of the kind they shall be punished by one hundred blows, &c., that since the rebellion of the Boxers in the North H.E. Li Hung-chang has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary; that on the 21st of the 8th moon (14th September) His Excellency started from Shanghai for Tientsin to open peace negotiations with the Foreign Powers; that the Imperial Government have ordered the *I Ho Chuan* rebels to be completely destroyed, an order which all people ought to respect; and that if any person or persons shall dare to print and publish any false news with a view to deceive and cause breaches of the peace they shall be arrested and punished severely according to law, without any show of leniency. Let everyone tremblingly obey.

Canton, 26th September.

FRESH RIOTS ON THE 24TH INST.

Disturbances broke out in the village of Shek Loong, 40 miles east of Canton, on the 24th inst. at 3 p.m. 14 houses of the native Christians and one chapel being looted. The mob made a rush into the Roman Catholic chapel and thence into the residence of a priest who had a narrow escape of being shot, and burnt it down to the ground. The refugees, men, women, and children, to the number of 32, came to Canton and have been accommodated and fed by the French Mission. More refugees were expected the next day. They had lost everything and had escaped only with what they had on their backs. The work of destruction was still going on when the Chinese officials received orders to send troops to the scene of disturbance.

GOOD FRENCH PATROL WORK.

It is said that a steamer, the *Lungkong*, plying between Hongkong and Lak Low, was fired at when she passed the disturbed district, one man on board being wounded. On her way she met the gunboat *Avalanche* whose doctor had attended to the wounded man. The *Avalanche*, which is cruising about, with an occasional stop at anchor, when she proceeded to Lak Low found the place was as quiet as possible. It appears that the gunboat has been doing a great deal of good by her presence in the disturbed locality and by an arrangement made by the French Consul with the Viceroy with a view to co-operating with the Chinese officials to suppress the disturbances, she will not leave the district until some few heads of the leaders of the riot are off, and other exemplary punishment enforced. With the reference to the false edict, which led to disturbances extending as far as Swatow, the Acting Viceroy is going to issue a proclamation contradicting it.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 24th September.

A MONOPOLY-RIDDEN COLONY.

This colony is among those unfortunate places which suffer the disgrace of seeing their main revenues drawn from monopolies. The most important trades in Macao are in the iron grasp of farmers and monopolists. On Saturday the fish monopoly was put up for auction and was secured by one "Choi-hing" for \$27,750 per annum, the contract being given for the ten years 1901-1911. The past ten years were given away for \$12,240 per annum. Who then pays for this extra \$15,510 per annum, the monopolist or the inhabitants? The reply is easy—the inhabitants; the monopolist merely squeezes them. With such a state of affairs, the business of the colony is done for. If any new trade prospers, the squeezers are sure to ask the Government for a new monopoly. And though the ostensible names of the monopolists are all different, the public knows well that all monopolies are in the hands of one man, who, if not actually the holder of most shares, is at least the man of most influence. No Government should allow the governed to be squeezed in the way we are at Macao. A man of energy like Senhor Horta e Costa should do his best to free at least articles of daily use from the heavy taxes which we are indirectly paying to the Government for them. Monopolies are all very well for such luxuries as Fantan, Pacap-

pin, opium, etc., but for daily necessities they are not right. It is time for the Government and the people to join hands for the salvation of the colony. Macao cannot last at this rate.

A WELCOME CHANGE.

On Saturday last the care of the streets, roads, and public gardens, formerly under the Leal Senado, passed to the Public Works Department. The former body has undertaken the duty for about five years, but with no good results. Besides, the Leal Senado has no means to meet the heavy expense. The home Government has learnt the insufficiency of the Senado, and has ordered the P. W. D. to resume its charge of this duty.

THE ROYAL BIRTHDAY.

The 28th inst., the Birthday of Their Most Faithful Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal, will be a gala-day in the colony. There will be a band playing at Government House in the morning and in the principal streets at noon. Then will follow the Government official reception, the Thanksgiving Service at the cathedral, a Grand Parade at 4 o'clock of the troops at the Avenida Vasco de Gama, in which all the newly-arrived men will take part, and at night illuminations and a grand ball at Government House, to which 600 invitations have been issued, including people from your colony and from Hongkong.

A CHINESE MURDER.

A few days ago one of two Chinamen stopping at a Chinese boarding-house cut the other's head open with an axe and disappeared. Not having been found again up to the present. It is said that the unfortunate man who was killed had a stroke of luck at Fantan on the previous day to his murder, and it is supposed that the \$10,000 or more tempted his companion to commit the crime.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE ENTRY INTO PEKING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 25th September.

Sir.—In your leader this morning you refer to two apparently contradictory reports regarding the entry of the allies into Peking, on the 14th August. One was that the Russians got in first; the other that the British did.

The explanation is simple. Peking, as everyone knows, is divided by the south wall of the Tartar City into two sections. The northern section is called the Tartar City, the southern the Chinese City. We are all familiar with the map. Roughly, the Tartar City is a square resting on a parallelogram formed by the Chinese City, which juts out east and west of the Tartar City wall. Where the Chinese City juts out east of the Tartar City wall—that is to say, in the north-east corner of the Chinese City—is a gate named the Tung-pien-men. South of that, in the east wall of the Chinese City, is the Sha-huo-men. The Russians attacked the Tung-pien-men in the small hours of the morning of the 14th. Soon after 9 a.m. the gate was in their possession and they entered Peking by it—entered, that is to say, into the Chinese City.

The South Wall of the Tartar City was still held by the Chinese and from the watch-tower on the corner a hot rifle-fire was encountered whenever the Russians showed up from under cover of the houses inside the Tung-pien-men. Though inside the Chinese City—inside Peking—the Russians were held in check, and here the Americans caught them up about 11 a.m., following in by the same gate and joining with their artillery as well as infantry in the fight against the Chinese who held the Tartar City Wall. The fire from there prevented the Russians and Americans advancing along the face of the wall to attack the Sha-huo-men. Instead they had to make a wide detour through the Chinese City. In the meantime the British had come up to the east wall of the Chinese City, entered by the Sha-huo-men about one o'clock, and advanced through the streets to the Water-gate which leads through the south wall of the Tartar City near the Legations. There General Gaselee arrived at about 2.45. The Russians and Americans did

not get into the Tartar City for several hours after. The Japanese were later still. The reports which you refer to as being contradictory are really therefore agreeable. The Russians did get in first into Peking—into the Chinese City. The British did get in first—into the Tartar City, into the Legations.—I am, sir, yours etc.

MURRAY STEWART.

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING, AND DYEING COMPANY, LIMITED.

INTERNAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

On Monday afternoon, the 24th inst., an informal meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving, and Dyeing Company was held at the offices of the General Managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.) for the purpose of discussing the financial position of the Company. The Hon. J. J. Keswick presided, and there were also present the Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. A. Haupt (directors), J. McKie (secretary), David Gillies, Gershom Stewart, Forest, Rustonjee, Byramjee, Ho Fook, Chan Ku, Chan Chan Nam, Fok Tsan Kang, and Ho U Shang.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, at the annual meeting held on the 3rd inst. I mentioned that you would shortly be called together to consider the position of the company and to come to a decision as to its future. You have been invited here to-day for that purpose, but quite in an informal manner. Although in the meantime an improvement in the Market has taken place which would warrant our stock of yarns being entered at a slightly higher figure than it appeared at in the statement of accounts then submitted to you, this advance in value is not sufficient to make any important change in the financial position of the Company, and for the purposes of this informal meeting I will ask you to regard that statement as unaltered. You are aware that after allowing for the probable proceeds of yarns in stock, value of cotton, etc., the amount advanced to the Company by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. approximates to \$1,000,000, an amount they have decided not to exceed, although quite willing not to press for the repayment of it at present, if some arrangement can be made as to working capital. It will be evident to you, however, that it is necessary that working capital must be provided in order to carry on, and it is to the consideration of how this necessary capital has to be provided that I ask you to address yourselves. I have to add that subject to the regular quarterly payment of interest on the amount they have advanced, and provided that shareholders are prepared to furnish a capital of not less than \$300,000, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. will undertake that payment of the sum advanced, or any portion of it, will not be demanded before the end of September, 1901, unless results of working appear to them to justify it. In conclusion I trust you understand that if you do not come forward and protect your own interests in some such manner I have endeavoured to indicate, it will be necessary to convene an extraordinary meeting at as early a date as is permissible, at which I shall be reluctantly compelled to submit a resolution for the liquidation of the concern. It depends entirely upon you, gentlemen, whether this step will have to be taken. Acquainted with the position as you have been for at least a month past you have each of you no doubt decided in your own mind whether you will provide sufficient capital to give the enterprise a more extensive trial than it has yet had, and I invite your remarks on the situation or suggestions as to how the present difficulties have to be met. It is unnecessary for me to say that it would be with the deepest regret that I should contemplate the necessity of submitting a resolution for the liquidation of the Company, and I will welcome any chance of escape from such an unpleasant alternative. I beg you therefore, gentlemen, to afford me the benefit of your advice in this important matter, and to consider whether you can supply the funds necessary to further test the possibilities of making the enterprise a success.

Mr. GILLIES—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I understand from your remarks just now that a sum of \$300,000 would be sufficient to give the concern another trial—a fair trial—and

would probably end in success. Have the shareholders been consulted in the matter of increasing the capital? I think this is but a very small sum considering the amount already subscribed, the shares being \$100 each. I think if the matter is fairly presented to the shareholders they would be willing to come forward with another \$25 per share to make up the sum which you think necessary to keep the concern running and place it on a better footing. I do not know what steps you have taken to ascertain the feeling of the shareholders in this matter, but I think, looking at it from a business point of view, it would be well worth the while of the shareholders to subscribe another \$25 per share, as if the concern is put into liquidation there will be but a very small return, if any, for the shareholders. I think that if the matter is fairly laid before the shareholders they would be quite willing to subscribe the \$25 per share which you think necessary.

The CHAIRMAN—In reply to Mr. Gillies' enquiry as to whether any steps have been taken to place the matter fairly before the shareholders in the sense to which Mr. Gillies referred, I can only say that at the general meeting I made the position as clear as I could, and the present informal meeting is for the same purpose and to invite suggestions as to how we should overcome the present difficulty. I am very much obliged to Mr. Gillies for the suggestion he has made. The feeling we have in regard to the capital required is that if we had three lakhs of dollars more we think we could carry on at least for one year, and should not ask for the repayment of the money due to us before the end of September, 1901. I may say that we are very anxious in connection with a concern of this kind by every means in our power to forbear taking any extreme measures before the company has had as good a chance as possible of testing whether it has the merit of success within it or not. Therefore I do not wish to precipitate matters in any way, and if there is the least likelihood of the shareholders subscribing the \$300,000, the difficulty will be overcome certainly for a year and I think altogether.

Mr. RUSTOMJEE—I concur with Mr. Gillies in certain respects. I think it would be advisable to issue preference shares, giving the present shareholders the first chance to take them up and then throwing them open to the public.

After a consultation with the directors, Mr. RUSTOMJEE proposed—"That the General Managers have a mortgage on the company for the amount due to them, and that preference shares to the amount of \$300,000 be offered to the present shareholders first, any balance to be offered to the public."

Mr. GERSHAM STEWART seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

No further proposal being made the proceedings terminated, the CHAIRMAN remarking that he would summon an extraordinary meeting as early as possible to consider the question dealt with by the resolution or any other which might arise in connection with the present situation of the company.

THE DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the seventeenth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the offices of the above Company, on Saturday, the 29th day of September, 1900, at noon.

The General Managers have now to submit to the shareholders their report on the seventeenth year's working of the Company, ended 30th June, 1900. After paying all running expenses, premia of insurance, remuneration to Consulting Committee and Auditors' fees, there is a loss of \$65,408.79 to be met by the transfer of the equivalent amount from the reserve fund which will then stand at \$165,778.59.

The General Managers and Consulting Committee greatly regret this very unfortunate result which is entirely attributable to the extremely low rates of freight ruling in consequence of the continued and determined opposition of the subsidised Japanese steamers on the Formosa line.

There was some prospect in the early part of the year of a satisfactory arrangement being agreed upon, and the President of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha led us to expect a visit from him with the purpose of discussing the matter, but after a long delay he finally wrote us that no proposals for a settlement could be entertained until his Company had completed their project of extending their lines on the Yangtze and China coast generally.

Combined with the low rates of freight there has been a steady decline in the trade between Hongkong, the Coast Ports and Formosa, and it became necessary to withdraw some of the steamers from an employment which materially contributed to our prosperity in past years.

The steamers are all in excellent condition, but the expenditure for overhaul and repairs has been exceptionally heavy.

In usual course it may be mentioned that the amounts appearing as freights due and accounts receivable on 30th June, have since been collected.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Since the last general meeting, Messrs. C. H. Thompson, C. A. Tomas and E. Shellim have resigned. The Committee now consists of the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Messrs. J. A. Mackay, R. Shewan and C. S. Sharp, who retire in terms of the Articles of Association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The present accounts have been audited by Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. H. Gaskell, who retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1900.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account:—20,000 shares at \$50	1,000,000.00		
Reserve fund	231,187.38		
Underwriting account of the Company	53,315.83		
Sundry accounts payable	84,240.54		
Unpaid dividends	36.00		
Unpaid bonus	138.00		
	\$1,368,917.80		

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Value of the Co.'s steamers Hailong, Formosa, Haitan, Thales, Haimun & Haiching	1,054,203.16		
Value of buoys and moorings at Swatow, Amoy, Tamsui and Hongkong, steam launch and wharf at Hongkong	58,970.44		
	1,113,173.60		

Loans on mortgage Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	60,500.00		
Value of coal in stock	113.75		
Freights due 30th June, 1900	52,568.56		
Sundry accounts receivable from agencies, &c.	57,808.80		
Cash in hand	610.67		
Profit and loss account	65,408.79		
	\$1,368,917.80		

P. OFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1900.

To remuneration to General Managers for office expenses, for 12 months	10,000.00
To remuneration to Consulting Committee for 12 months	2,000.00
To auditor's fees	600.00
To exchange account	626.80
To loss on running the Company's steamers to date	62,136.91
	\$75,363.71

By profit on coals supplied to steamers	3,610.33
By interest on mortgages account	4,005.43
By general interest account	1,233.23
By bonuses received	1,105.93
By balance	65,408.79
	\$75,363.71

The following paragraph from the N.-C. Daily News explains the telegram received by Mr. Consul Scott at Canton and forwarded by him to us for publication this week:—"A considerable anxiety has been entertained regarding the safety of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Lewis and Mr. H. J. Hewitt of the C. I. M., who, by instructions of the U.S. Consul at Chungking, left Haingi-fu (Kweichow) on the 10th of August for Canton by the West River. Telegraphic information has reached the Director of the C. I. M. that they were compelled to turn back and had arrived at Kweichow. They expected to leave for Chungking [on the 19th inst.]

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-seventh ordinary meeting, to be held at the Society's Offices at noon, on Thursday, the 11th October, 1900.

The directors have now to submit to the shareholders a report of the business of the Society for the year 1899, and for the six months ending the 30th June, 1900.

1899.—The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to \$2,660,419.32. After providing for a bonus of 20 per cent. on contributions paid in May last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of \$584,588.01 as per annexed statement.

From this sum the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of \$20 per share, equivalent to 40 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$50 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of \$65,000, raising the reserve to \$1,425,000. They further recommend that the staff should receive a bonus of twenty per cent. on their present annual salaries, which will absorb about \$32,000, and that the balance amounting to about \$287,000 should be carried forward to underwriting suspense account to close the account for the year 1899.

1900.—The position of the Society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—

Balance of working account to the 30th June as per annexed statement	\$1,348,760.64
Add estimate of premium to 30th September	690,000.00
	\$2,038,760.64
Estimate of losses to pay	620,000.00
	\$1,418,760.64

DIRECTORS.

Since the last general meeting the directors have had to deplore the death on the 2nd April last of Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, who had been a director of the Society since 1874. Mr. R. H. Hill, Mr. A. G. Wood and Mr. E. S. Wheeler have resigned their seats on leaving the colony and Mr. R. L. Richardson, Mr. J. A. MacKay, Mr. C. S. Sharp and Mr. G. H. Medhurst have joined the Board.

In accordance with clause 86 of the Articles of Association, Mr. N. A. Siebs and Mr. R. L. Richardson retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. J. H. Cox and W. Hutton Potts retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

N. A. SIEBS,

Chairman.

Hongkong, 21st September, 1900.

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1899, ON 30TH JUNE, 1900.

Dr.	\$ c.
To working account, balance on 30th June, 1899	1,194,031.08
To net premium from 1st July to 31st December, 1899	1,121,398.54
To interest	135,700.94
	\$2,451,130.56
Cr.	\$ c.
By agency commissions	41,816.37
By head office, branches & agency charges	193,761.61
By remuneration for half-year ending 31st December, 1899, to directors, committees and auditors	12,129.23
By losses and claims paid	1,306,263.73
By exchange	333.03
By bonus on contributions account 1899, (declared 20th April, 1900) 20 per cent.	307,213.49
By balance	584,588.01
	\$2,451,130.56

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1900, ON 30TH JUNE, 1900.

Dr.	\$ c.
To net premium from 1st January to 30th June, 1900	1,893,219.73
To interest	80,812.48
	\$1,974,032.20
Cr.	\$ c.
By agency commissions	42,463.47
By head office, branches & agency charges	180,272.03
By remuneration for half-year ending 30th June, 1900, to directors, committees and auditors	10,947.16
By losses and claims paid	300,739.76
By exchange	799.14
By balance	1,348,760.64
	\$1,974,032.20

BALANCE SHEET, ON 30TH JUNE, 1900.

Dr.	\$	c.
To capital 10,000 shares of \$250 each—		
\$2,500,000 upon which \$50 per share		
called and paid up.....	500,000.00	
To reserve fund.....	1,360,000.00	
To unclaimed bonus and dividend.....	23,906.88	
To exchange fluctuation account.....	626,312.96	
To investment fluctuation account being		
the increase in market value of securities.....	133,378.10	
To working account, 1899, balance.....	584,588.01	
To working account, 1900, balance.....	1,348,760.64	
To sundry creditors, viz.:		
Reinsurance fund, being amount set		
aside out of premium on lines run in		
excess of normal limits, to serve as a		
provision against losses on such ex-		
cess lines.....	469,605.34	
Underwriting suspense account, being		
amount set aside to meet claims on		
1898 and previous years.....	80,000.00	
Other ledger accounts.....	115,269.25	
	\$5,246,821.18	

Cr.	\$	c.
By cash on current account with the Hong-		
kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.....	77,788.26	
By cash on deposit with banks in Hongkong		
and Shanghai.....	430,000.00	
By cash invested in debentures at Hong-		
kong and Shanghai.....	361,084.51	
By cash invested on mortgages, viz.:		
In Hongkong.....	\$584,500.00	
In Shanghai.....	788,732.40	
	1,353,232.40	
By amount invested in London, viz.:		
Deposited in banks.....	£43,000 0 0	
Invested in sterling securi-		
ties.....	144,915 10 11	
Invested in rupees paper.....	27,090 0 0	
(market value at date).....	£215,005 10 11	
	2,155,669.15	
By amount invested in Melbourne, viz.:		
Deposited in banks.....	£2,000 0 0	
Invested in sterling securi-		
ties.....	18,183 15 0	
(market value at date).....	£20,183 15 0	
	202,364.40	
By amount at debit of branches and agen-		
cies.....	535,867.25	
By bills receivable.....	23,749.60	
By bills remitted to London agency, 30th		
June account.....	778.94	
By sundry debtors.....	106,336.58	
	\$5,246,821.18	

V. R. C. AQUATIC SPORTS.

SECOND DAY.

The first event on the programme on the 21st inst. was the championship of the colony, for which there were five entries. It was expected that last year's winner, A. A. Alves, would hardly be able to hold his own this year, but the expectation was not realised. He was six yards ahead of the second man ("A. E.") at the finish. His time was 2 min. 45 sec. against 2 min. 51 sec. last year, that of his brother being 2 min. 54 sec. J. H. R. Hance outdistanced all competitors in the swim under water. He covered 104 and the second man (Tata) 99 feet. A. Humphreys covered 152½ feet last year.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY.—200 Yards; Six Lengths; Open to all Comers. Two Prizes.

A. A. Alves	1
A. E. Alves	2
H. E. Moon	0
J. A. Wilson	0
R. Lapsley	0

"A. A." had slightly the advantage at the end of the first length, with "A. E." second and Moon third. This order was retained until the finish, "A. A." gradually increasing his lead, and winning easily by six or seven yards. "A. E." being about a couple of yards ahead of Moon. Lapsley gave up at the end of the fourth length. Time 2 min. 45 sec.

RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING BOARD Two Prizes.

F. Jorge	1
A. A. Alves	2
N. H. Alves	0
F. W. White	0

Jorge and A. A. Alves tied, but on going on again Jorge was declared the winner.

SWIM UNDER WATER (Two Prizes).

J. H. R. Hance (104 feet)	1
F. K. Tata (99 feet)	2
F. D. Bain	0
F. M. Roza Pereira	0
J. M. Roza Pereira	0

BOYS' RACE (11 TO 15 YEARS OF AGE).—

TWO LENGTHS; HANDICAP. Two Prizes.

B. Sayers	1
E. Alves	2

WATER POLO.—Teams:—Whites.—C. M. S. Alves, Frank Jorge, E. Herbst, F. M. Roza Pereira, R. Henderson, R. Lapsley, A. E. Alves (Capt.). Reds.—E. Grant Smith, F. D. Bain, E. W. Carpenter, A. Loureiro, J. H. R. Hance, C. E. A. Hance, A. A. Alves, (Capt.).

The Whites won, five goals against one.

THIRD DAY.

On Saturday ladies were invited, and a liberal response was given to the invitation. Commodore and Mrs. Powell, the latter having kindly consented to distribute the prizes, were among those present. The band of the 22nd Bombay Regiment was in attendance and supplied a capital programme of music. Their playing was much admired. The two lengths member's race was won easily by F. M. Roza Pereira, while the special prize presented by Mr. E. D. Sanders to the winner of most points in non-handicap events went to A. A. Alves. He had 18 points whilst his brother A. E. had 14. A. A. Alves's team again won the Water Polo. The following are the details of the different events:—

MEMBERS' RACE (two lengths; two prizes; first prize by H. E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.).

R. Henderson, owes 4 sec.	1
J. Mills	"Go"
F. D. Bain	8
J. H. R. Hance	11
R. Lapsley	14

E. W. Carpenter and H. A. Lam-	
mert, owes 7	dead heat
F. W. White owes 3	0
A. E. Alves, owes 14	0

F. M. Roza Pereira, owes 7	1
J. C. Logan, owes	5
J. M. Roza Pereira, owes	6
A. A. Alves, owes	15

J. C. Logan came in first, but was disqualified on account of his starting too soon.

C. M. S. Alves (owes 6) and N.	
H. Alves (owes 7)	dead heat
A. J. Mackie	"Go" 0
I. Grant Smith, owes 12	0

F. M. Roza Pereira	1
H. A. Lammert	2

GREASY POLE.—A. Loureiro liberated the duck, F. D. Bain having come near doing so, and J. C. Logan caught it in the water. The prize went to Loureiro. The other competitors were A. J. Mackie, J. Grant, O. I. Ellis, F. M. Roza Pereira, J. H. R. Hance, R. Lapsley, A. A. Alves, C. E. Ellis, E. Herbst.

TUG OF WAR.—A. E. Alves's team won. It was composed of F. K. Tata, C. M. S. Alves, F. D. Bain, E. Herbst, J. H. R. Hance, A. Loureiro, E. W. Carpenter, A. E. Alves (Capt.). The following was the other team:—J. C. Logan, O. I. Ellis, A. J. Mackie, R. Henderson, J. Grant, F. M. Roza Pereira, R. Lapsley, A. A. Alves (Capt.).

Captain SANDERS, who acted as chairman, said—Ladies and Gentlemen, Mrs. Powell has kindly consented to present the prizes, and I am sure we all esteem it a great honour that she has come to our aquatic sports. (Applause).

Mrs. POWELL having distributed the prizes, Captain SANDERS, in handing her a bouquet, said—Mrs. Powell, on behalf of the members of the Victoria Recreation Club I have to thank you very much for coming here, and as a small token of our appreciation I beg, you to accept this bouquet. (Applause).

Mrs. POWELL expressed her thanks, and the proceedings concluded with cheers for Mrs. Powell, followed by cheers for Captain Sanders and the Secretary (Mr. T. Yule).

The money contributed by the Japanese public towards the fund to procure luxuries for the troops in China amounts to 26,000 yen. The War Office intends with this money to buy sake, cigarettes, &c., to send to Peking. Preparations will shortly be made to ship winter-clothing for the Japanese troops who are expected to spend the winter in North China.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"C" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The September shoot of the "C" Machine Gun Company for the "Capt. Potts" and "Gubbay" Cups resulted in a second win for Corporal Sherwin on the first cup, but the "Gubbay" Cup June score was not beaten. There were also six spoons presented by one of the members, which were divided into three sections so as give all a chance of getting one.

	200	400	500	H'cap.	Total
* Corporal Sherwin	31	31	21	12	95
* Gunner H. Gidley	29	28	24	6	87
* Gunner Shoolbred	30	24	30	2	86
* Gr. McCordquodale	29	28	21	8	86
* Gunner J. Lee	26	26	15	19	86
Sergt.-Mjr. Rodger	29	28	19	8	84
* Bomb. Gloyne	25	32	13	14	84
* Gunner Millar	26	21	25	11	83
Sergeant Smillie	28	32	20	2	82
* Bomb. Berkley	15	25	20	21	81
* Gunner Galbreath	22	23	21	14	80

* Winners of spoons.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Some fine scores were again made on the 22nd inst in the practice over the Interport Ranges, and Hongkong's prospects for another win look bright. Scores:—

	200	500	600	H'cap.	Total
* Mr. Marshall	33	35	30	—	98
* Mr. Cramer, R.N.	30	32	33	—	95
* Mr. W. Stewart	31	31	33	—	95
* Mr. Stackwood	32	29	31	3	95
Mr. W. Duncan	32	31	31	—	94
Mr. D. Baldwin	32	31	28	2	93
Mr. Pidgeon	31	31	30	—	92
Corporal Hills	34	30	28	—	92
Mr. R. Collins	28	33	25	6	92
Mr. Cameron	30	27	27	6	90
Mr. A. Mackenzie	31	26	32	—	89

* Winners of spoons.

SHANGHAI RACE CLUB.

The Secretary gives notice of the following alteration of Programme in the forthcoming Autumn Meeting of the Club:—

2nd Day, 9th Race, the Siccawoi Cup has been altered as follows:—10.—The Military Cup. 1½ Mile. Presented by the Officers of the 2nd Infantry Brigade, China Expeditionary Force. From the Fund, 2nd Pony Tls. 50; if five or more starters, Third Pony Tls. 25. For all China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Unplaced Ponies at this Meeting allowed 5 lbs. Entrance Tls. 5.

HONGKONG POLO CLUB.

On Wednesday evening, 26th inst., on the Causeway Bay ground, a match took place between the Hongkong Polo Club and a team drawn from the Indian troops now in Hongkong. After a good game the visitors won by 4 goals and 2 subsidiaries to 1 subsidiary goal. The following were the teams:—

Indian Troops:—Tanwar Pirthi Singh, H. H. the Maharajah of Bikanir, Major Kettlewell, and Capt. Watson (back).

H.K.P.C.:—Lieut. Com. Wilkin, R.N., Capt. des Vaux, R.E., Lieut. Mullikin, R.A., and Capt. Loring, R.A. (back).

On the 8th inst. a memorial and thanksgiving service was held at the Peitang Roman Catholic Cathedral Peking, the P. and T. Times records. It was a "memorial" for those who perished during the siege, and "thanksgiving" for those whose lives are preserved. There was an orphanage attached to this Cathedral with 400 inmates (Chinese); when the siege commenced 200 children (Christian) were brought in for protection, so that all through the long siege the Romanists had 600 children alone to protect and care for. The small guard of French and Italian blue-jackets, who so nobly defended the place for upwards of 60 days, on one occasion during the siege rushed out of their strong hold, attacked the Chinese troops and captured a small cannon which they were afterwards able to turn on the besiegers.

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library last week included 463 non-Chinese and 209 Chinese; those to the City Hall Museum, 167 non-Chinese and 1,687 Chinese.

Only two fresh cases of plague and two deaths have been reported since last week's issue, both occurring in the 24 hours preceding noon yesterday. The numbers for the year are now:—cases, 1067; deaths, 1009.

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Nova Scotia preached at the morning service in St. John's Cathedral on Sunday, the 23rd inst. His address was one of the most eloquent and impressive ever preached in the colony.

Sergeant Dymond and a party of police raided a house at No. 51, High Street, on Sunday morning, and on the ground floor found a number of men sitting round a table gambling. One of the men endeavoured to escape by getting through the window. He, however, fell and injured his foot, and had to be taken to the Hospital. On the 24th inst. the offenders were placed before Mr. Hazeland. The keeper of the house, a cripple, who had to be conveyed to the Magistracy in a chair, was fined \$15. He said he understood there was no objection to Sunday gambling. The case against the injured man was withdrawn, and the others were fined \$2 each.

On the 21st inst. some passengers from Singapore were landing their belongings at Praya West when a loafer came along and picked up a bundle and made off. Two boarding-house runners gave chase, and one caught him, the other coming up immediately afterwards. In giving evidence at the Magistracy on Saturday they said that the Chinese watchman who was called mistook the first runner for the thief and began knocking him about. The watchman, however, denied this. In sentencing the defendant to a month's hard labour Mr. Hazeland observed that the man was evidently one of those dangerous class of thieves who went about snatching things.

Chung Po and Lo Sing appeared at the Magistracy on the 21st inst. charged with keeping a common gaming-house at 366, Des Vœux Road, and 20 other men were charged with gaming. The police raided the house on the 20th inst. A Chinese constable who was sent in advance of Sergeant Dymond and party found a crowd of them playing *pai kau* round a table on the verandah. When the Sergeant appeared there was a stampede. One man got over the verandah, falling to the ground and taking a portion of the verandah with him. The Sergeant went to look for him, expecting to find him seriously injured. He was, however, nowhere to be seen. Twenty-two arrests were made. Two of the defendants were fined \$15 each and the rest \$3 each.

At the Magistracy on the 21st inst. Rossina George, mistress of a brothel at No. 397, Queen's Road West, was charged on the information of Sergeant Murison with selling intoxicating liquor without a license. Leon Victor Case, a man out of employment, said that on the night of the 20th inst., between seven and eight o'clock, he went to 397, Queen's Road West. He saw the defendant there. He bought a bottle of stout and one bottle of German beer. He paid a dollar for each bottle. The house was a brothel.—George Mare, also unemployed, said he went to the house in question with the previous witness. He saw the defendant there. He bought one bottle of stout and one bottle of beer, paying a dollar for each bottle.—Sergeant Murison said he sent the two previous witnesses to the house in question. He followed ten minutes afterwards. He saw the defendant go from the hall to the kitchen with an empty beer-bottle and an empty stout bottle. He seized the bottles. He then went into the hall and found four glasses containing beer and one containing stout. Searching the house he found concealed in the cookhouse two quart bottles of beer, two pints of beer, an empty whiskey bottle, and 19 bottles of aerated water. He seized the bottles and arrested the defendant.—The defendant denied selling the beer; the beer was for her own consumption. She also supplied beer for two other girls in the house.—A fine of \$100, or two months, was imposed, and the two first witnesses were allowed \$10 each.

One of the men injured in the coolie fight at the China Sugar Refinery died on the 22nd inst., his spleen being ruptured.

Lieut. F. Maitland, who has resigned from "A" Machine Gun Co. in the Volunteer Corps, has been appointed Lieutenant to the "Reserve" Company.

A boatman was on the 22nd inst. fined \$25 for dredging within the man-of-war anchorage. Dredging in this portion of the harbour is prohibited because it tempts the men on board the war-vessels to make a little money by selling to the boat-people brushes and other articles belonging to the ship.

The officials of the Supreme Court are grumbling about being deprived of their holidays this vacation. Last year half the staff were on duty while the other half were free, but this year they have all been ordered to attend at the office, though they have practically nothing to do.

Notice is given in the *Gazette* that torpedoes will be run on the torpedo range at Kowloon, from Tuesday the 25th instant, until further notice (Saturdays and Sundays excepted), between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily. The range is about 1,000 yards straight out from the pier. All ships, junks and other vessels are cautioned to keep clear of the range.

On the 23rd instant two seedy-looking individuals called at the different pawnshops in the West End of the town and endeavoured to get rid of a silver watch. The pawnbrokers, however, smelt a rat, suspecting that the watch had not been come by honestly, and the last one upon which the men called detained one of them, and sent word to Sergeant Dymond, at No. 7 Police Station. The other man, who was standing at the door, got away. Before anyone arrived from No. 7 Police Station an Indian constable passed the shop and the pawnbroker called him in and handed the man he had detained over to him. Subsequently the other man was arrested. On the 24th inst. they were both taken before Mr. Hazeland and sentenced to two months' hard labour for being in unlawful possession.

The Annual General Meeting of members of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society was held on the 25th inst. in the City Hall. Capt. G. C. Anderson presided. The following officers were appointed:—President, Mr. Jas. McKie, proposed by Mr. David Gillies, seconded by Mr. G. Murray Bain; Vice-President, the Hon. T. H. Whitehead, proposed by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, seconded by Mr. J. C. Peter; Honorary Secretary, Mr. David Wood, and Honorary Treasurer, Mr. D. R. Crawford, proposed by the Hon. J. J. Keswick, seconded by Mr. James McKie. The following General Committee was appointed by ballot:—Messrs. Bain, Stewart, Robertson, Law and Peter. It was decided that a ball should be held on St. Andrew's Day on the same basis as last year, subscription being \$10, first gentleman guest or married couple \$10, subsequent gentleman guest or married couple \$5.

The other week a man and woman named Fung Kan, alias Fong King Tsoi and Chan I, were sentenced to six months' hard labour for kidnapping a small boy. The man was a servant at the Hospital Sister's quarters, and an examination of his room caused the police to suspect that this was not the first kidnapping case with which he had been concerned. They accordingly prosecuted enquiries which have resulted in another charge of a similar character being preferred against him and his partner. It seems that in June last a girl named Tai Mai was missed from her home at No. 54, Graham Street. On the 19th of August the woman who acted as amah at the latter address was going down Aberdeen Street when she saw the little girl on the verandah of No. 7. She at once went into the house, secured the child, and carried her to the Police Station. The police went down to the house, but found that the occupants had already flown. The other day the girl was asked to take the police to the place where she stayed when taken away from her home, and she at once led them into the male defendant's room at the Hospital Sisters' quarters. Some of the articles of clothing found in the room were recognised as the girl's, and the girl identified the defendants as the people with whom she stayed. The defendants were brought before Mr. Hazeland on the 25th inst. and remanded until Monday next.

On the 23rd inst. a boy eight years old fell off a cargo-boat at Yaumati and was drowned.

A man named Li Lam was on the 24th inst. sentenced to six weeks' hard labour for stealing nine pieces of timber, valued at \$54. He was observed to go coolly up to the timber, put it in a truck with the assistance of three coolies whom he had engaged, and go away with it. He was followed, caught and given into custody.

There has been a good deal of gambling of late on the hill-sides in the vicinity of Aberdeen. Owing to the good look-out kept, the police have found it difficult to get hold of the offenders. On the 23rd inst. a gang of men were observed gambling on the hill-side near Deep Bay. Four constables managed to get among them, and made four arrests. On the 24th inst. one of the men arrested was fined \$10, and two \$3 each.

There will be a scratch race of the Hongkong Boat Club, for spoons, rowed on the 8th and 9th October next. The contest will be rowed in heats. The following crews have entered:—No. 1—J. D. Danby, C. Hance, T. Oppenheim, F. D. Bain. No. 2—G. M. Young, G. Grimble, H. Kennett, T. J. Wild. No. 3—J. Hance, D. M. Graham, C. Sherrington, H. M. Bain. No. 4—E. Herbst, G. R. Stevens, S. Stevens, W. Winterburn.

At about seven o'clock on the 24th inst. some commotion was caused at Praya East by the antics of a Chinaman who turned out to be a lunatic. He came along in a rickshaw, and when opposite No. 2 Police Station he stopped, rushed wildly towards the harbour and jumped in, commencing to swim about in an aimless manner. Sergeant Ritchie and a linkong got a boat and went after the man. They had the greatest difficulty in getting him ashore and to the Police Station, as he fought and struggled most violently. He was subsequently sent to the Lunatic Asylum.

Several lots of Crown Land were offered for competition on the 24th inst. by Mr. G. J. W. King at the offices of the Public Works Department. Shaukiwan Inland Lot No. 394, containing 2,350 square feet, was sold to Mr. Tsang King for \$900. The upset price was \$75—Kowloon Inland Lots Nos. 1,107 and 1,108, containing each 13,500 square feet were bought by Mr. A. Shelton Hooper at the price of \$8,220, the upset price being \$8,100. Quarry Bay Inland Lot No. 6, containing 523,039 square feet, was purchased by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire for \$52,324. The upset price of this lot was \$52,304.

A man named Hung Ho entered a house in Winglok Street on the 22nd instant, and while no one was looking appropriated a pair of trousers and concealed them under his jacket. Before he could get away he was discovered by the occupant of the house. Asked what he wanted there, he said he had come to look for a friend. This excuse did not suffice, and the man was given into custody, when the trousers were found on him. On the 24th inst. he was sentenced to two months' hard labour, the last fortnight to be passed in solitary confinement being also ordered to receive four strokes with the birch rod.

"There does not seem to be an honest cinder-boat man in the colony. If not stealing coal they are stealing something else." This observation was made by Mr. Hazeland on the 22nd inst. when sentencing Tse Kau and Tsoi Leung, two cinder-boat men, to a month's hard labour for stealing a large copper cooking kettle from the transport *Itaura* early on Friday morning. The second defendant was also sentenced to another month for damaging a lock at the Water Police Station at Teim Tsat Tsui. It appears that one of the Lascars was working on deck when he observed the defendants carrying the kettle along the gang-way, to a boat which was alongside the vessel. He roused the Sangur (head Lascar), who caused the defendants to be arrested. The boat with three other men in it made off. The defendants were subsequently taken to the Water Police Station, and in the afternoon the second defendant was caught endeavouring to pick the padlock. He had torn some wire off a bucket and with it made a very passable skeleton key. He had broken the pivot in the padlock, and when caught was busily engaged trying to free the padlock and himself at the same time. The defendants' excuse for being on the *Itaura* was that they had gone for cinders, by Mr. E. D. Ile's orders. The second officer said they had no right on the boat at all.

The Hebrew community celebrated their New Year on the 24th inst. According to their calendar this is Tisri 1, in the year 5661. On the 24th and 25th inst. all Jewish firms were closed for business.

Chan Mi, the master of fishing boat No 8,141, was on the 25th inst. fined \$25 for dredging in the man-of-war anchorage. A number of things were found in his boat which had evidently come from the war-vessels.

On the 28th inst., being the birthday of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal, Senhor A. G. Romano, the Portuguese Consul-General, was "At Home" at his residence, "Duart," Arbuthnot Road, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Acting Deputy Superintendent Mackie and the Fire Brigade turned out on Thursday night, 20th inst. in consequence of an alarm being given to the effect that a fire had broken out at Wanchai. No fire, however, could be found, the alarm being evidently a false one.

Inspector Macdonald and a party of police visited a house at Sam Sui Po on the 26th inst. and found some men there engaged in playing *potze*. They made ten arrests, and yesterday two of the defendants were fined \$15 each for keeping a gaming house and the rest \$3 each for gambling.

On the 26th inst. Li Fee, the accountant at a marine dealer's shop at 38, Wing On Street, reported to the police that while transferring some Chinese spirits of wine from a wood tub to an earthenware jar he lighted a match and placed it over the jar to see what quantity of liquor was in. An explosion immediately took place, and some rags were set on fire. The Fire Brigade turned out and extinguished the flames before much damage was done.

An Indian constable who was on duty at Canton Wharf arrested a Chinaman who had landed because he objected to being searched. On Sergeant MacSwayd coming up he searched the man and found a revolver concealed in his breast and a couple of fine swords in his box. The man was brought before Mr. Hazland on the 26th inst. He said he had come from Canton to Hongkong on a visit and was not aware that he was offending against the law. A man who was known to the court testified that the defendant was a respectable person and had come to visit him. Under the circumstances he was discharged, the arms, however, being confiscated.

Li Kan, who was formerly in the employ of Acting Chief Inspector Kemp, was charged at the Magistracy on the 21st inst. with stealing \$20. Inspector Kemp said that on the 1st August he gave the defendant \$10 to buy provisions with. He gave him a similar amount on the 10th August. On the 20th August he discharged him. He told him to come to him on the 3rd September and he would square up accounts, as he owed him \$5, half a month's wages. He did not return on the 3rd September, and as he discovered that the money had not been paid to the comprador he had the defendant arrested.—The comprador said that on the 1st August the defendant came to him and asked for a book in the Chief Inspector's name. He supplied provisions to the defendant on credit, and the money had not yet been paid. The defendant was sent to prison for two months.

A Regulation, dated the 17th inst., is published in the *Gazette* to the effect that no persons shall utter any shouts or cries or make other noises while playing *Chai Mui* in or to the south of Bonham Road and Nine Road and to the east of a boundary running down Shing Wong Street to Hollywood Road, along Hollywood Road to Lyndhurst Terrace to Pottinger Street, down Pottinger Street to Praya, and to the west of Murray Barracks, and the line of tramway—from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.; within the area enclosed by the following boundary:—Queen's Road from New Street to Centre Street, Centre Street to Second Street, Second Street to Hospital Road, Hospital Road to No. 8 Police Station, thence by Rutter Street to Po Yan Street round the back of the Tung Wah Hospital to New Street and New Street to Queen's Road—from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.; all other parts of the City of Victoria—12 midnight to 6 a.m.; all that portion of the Kowloon Peninsula which lies to the south of Austin Road—from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.; all other parts of the Kowloon Peninsula—12 midnight to 6 a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Bishop of Macao is expected in Malacca some time this month. Great anxiety is exhibited to see the new Bishop.

The butchers' strike at Bangkok against slaughtering at the Government abattoir there—just made compulsory by law—has failed.

On the 11th instant the police at Bangkok seized a quantity of contraband spirit in the compound of a Roman Catholic church. The search party was opposed with sticks and knives.

The *Gazette* notifies that a law was passed in Germany on the 30th June, extending most favoured nation treatment to the United Kingdom and the Colonies. A notice based on that law, but excluding Canada and Barbados, has been issued by the German Chancellor.

The *N.-C. Daily News* comments on an interview granted by "Miss MacDonald, daughter of H. M. Representative in Peking," to a member of the staff of the *Asahi*, and says that the fact that Miss MacDonald is somewhere about six years old accounts for the following statement which closes the summary:—When the fire of the Chinese slackened the beleaguered folks organised a social entertainment to keep up their spirits, and feasted upon the water-melons sent by the Empress Dowager, no other kind of food or drink being available.

According to a Nagasaki native paper, the increase in Government subsidies which the Osaka Shosen Kaisha will receive from October next, comprises 88,206 yen for the Yangtze service, 77,860 yen for the North China line and 19,624 yen for the Korean service. The company has decided to construct two more steamers for their Yangtze service, and when his programme has been carried out the Government subsidy will be increased to 355,000 yen.

The *Gazette* publishes a Circular Despatch from the Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain, enclosing a copy of a letter from Sir E. Monson, dated Paris, 3rd July, in which it is stated:—Although no official statement has yet been made, there is every reason to hope that the Law authorizing the increase of duties on Colonial produce will not be put into effect, and that there will be no question of a change in the duties upon goods imported into France from British Dominions and Colonies as long as the latter make no alterations in the tariffs affecting French goods.

A court-martial was held on the 28th ult at Imus, Philippine Islands, on Private Chester A. Boakes, of the Fourth Infantry, of deserting in the face of the enemy and of joining the force of the enemy and also of advising other soldiers to desert. He was sentenced to be dishonourably discharged from the service of the United States Army, forfeiting all pay and allowances due, or to become due, and to be confined at hard labour for a period of forty years. General MacArthur has approved the sentence.

The *Japan Herald* says Captain Lans, of the *Illia*, who since the attack on the Taku forts has been under treatment of Dr. Koch at the German Hospital at Yokohama, appeared in the German Club a few days ago, where he was enthusiastically received with three "Hochs." He has not yet recovered the use of the shattered left leg, and was therefore obliged to walk on the one sound leg, without however, using any crutches. The *Herald* understands he is going to stay in Yokohama for a few months longer.

Captains Raymond and Cobban, with the new launches *Ho Lee* and *Wang Lee*, arrived in Manila last Tuesday week from Hongkong after a somewhat fine passage across, accompanied by strong south-westerly winds, and occasional squalls. They are the usual type of 35 feet launches, and have been purchased by the Government for the Quartermaster's Department. Another of these small craft named the *Kong On* left Hongkong on the 15th inst. bound for Manila in charge of Capt. Murphy. It is understood she is destined for George Armstrong and Co. of Manila. The *Wang Lee* and the *Hoi Lee* made the fast time of 3 days and 10 hours. Capt. Raymond is well known in Manila for his successful voyages between Hongkong and this port with Q. M. Dept. launches, says the *Manila Times*, and Capt. Cobban is one of the old time China coast skippers who for a long period was master of the fine ship *Esmeralda*, operated by Warner, Barnes & Co. of Manila, and Shewan, Tomes & Co. of Hongkong.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	19,331,239	19,569,578
Kobe	6,408,070	7,154,042
	25,829,318	26,723,620

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1899-1900	1898-99
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	34,496,984	25,363,948

SILK.

CANTON, 15th September.—Silk.—Tsatiees.—A few bales are said to have been settled, but no details have transpired. Re-reels.—50 bales of No. 1 Re-reels have been sold at \$660. Filatures.—With the exception of fine sizes have been in little demand, and business was very difficult owing to the advance in Exchange. Prices are very irregular and it is almost impossible to give exact quotations. From prices paid we quote:—\$750 for Kwong Shun Hang and Min King Lun 11/13, \$740 for Min King Lun 13/15, \$715 for Mee Lun Hing 10/12, Cheong Kee, Wing Wo Lun and Yee Wo Loong 9/11, \$690 for King Seng 11/13, Kwong Wo and Kwong King Cheong 10/12, \$687½ for Kwong King Yuen 10/12, \$685 for Yut Cheong Wo, Min Tai Cheong and Shing Wo Hang 10/12, \$680 for Yuk Wo Hing 16/18, Kai Cheong Loong, Yuk Wo Hing, Tai King Lun and Yu King Lun 10/12, \$665 for Kwong Sun On 13/15, \$650 for Chun Sun Hang and Yee Wo Loong 20/24, \$640 for Po Shun Cheong 18/22, \$630 for Yee Wo Lun 11/13, \$625 and \$320 for Victoria 20/30, \$510 for Meen Cheong and Yu Ye Lun 18/22, \$500 for Yuen Fung Sing, Hing Lun and Yee Wo Lun 13/15, \$585 for Tack On Loong 13/15. Short-reels.—There has been very little doing in Short-reels for America, and prices have been weak and irregular. From prices paid we quote: \$675 for Kwong Yuen Hang 14/16, \$665 for Chun Sun Hang 14/16, \$645 for Kai Cheong Lun 14/16, \$610 to \$590 for H. class Filatures. Waste.—Quiet and rather weak. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 2/1½, and Fcs. 2.64 per Dollar.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	3,002	4,572
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	4,915	8,471
	7,977	13,043

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	19,386	30,614
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	3,609	8,240
	22,995	44,854

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—There is no market and the price is declining. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$95.00 to \$95.50; sales 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—The tone of the market has further improved and the prices are going upward. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.77 to \$7.82 pcl.
do. " 2, White.....	0.90 to 0.95 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.18 to 5.22 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.05 to 5.10 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.83 to 7.87 "
do. " 1, White.....	0.95 to 7.00 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.08 to 5.12 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	4.90 to 4.95 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.25 to 11.30 "
Shekloong "	10.00 to 10.02 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Coptic*, sailed on the 6th September. For San Francisco:—1,609 pkgs. tea. For Chicago:—898 pkgs.—56,531 lbs. tea from Foochow. For San Francisco:—13 cases silk. For La Libertad:—1 case silk. For Corinto:—3 cases silk. For Punta Arinas:—4 cases silk. For New York:—1 case silk, 96 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, sailed on the 26th August. For San Francisco:—30 pkgs. tea, 1 case silk. For La Libertad:—3 cases silk. For Corinto:—1 case silk. For Champerico:—2 cases silk. For Panama:—8 cases silk. For Callao:—4 cases silk. For Valparaiso:—3 cases silk. For New York:—2 cases silk, 30 bales raw silk. For Whitehall, N. Y.:—200 bales waste silk.

Per steamer *America Maru*, sailed on 13th September. For San Francisco:—273 pkgs. tea, 8 cases silk. For Acapulco:—1 case silk. For Panama:—11 cases silk. For Guayaquil:—4 cases silk. For Bluefields:—1 case silk.

Per steamer *City of Peking*, sailed on the 18th September. For San Francisco:—4 pkgs. tea, 9 cases silk. For Punta Arinas:—6 cases silk. For Callao:—3 cases silk. For New York:—5 cases silk, 55 bales raw silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—Malwa.—A fair amount of business was transacted during the past fortnight. New \$810/20, Old \$850/920.

Bengal.—The market having dropped to \$951 for Patna and \$947 for Benares, a good demand sprung up and rates have gradually advanced to \$975 for Patna and \$965 for Benares, which are the closing quotations.

Persian.—Best drug changed hands at \$870/880.

Patna.....	838
Benares.....	261
Malwa.....	884
Persian.....	2,004

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—No sales are reported; market continues dull, owing to the low rate for China Cotton. Stock, about 2,500 bales.

Bombay,21.00 to 21.50 picul
Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 21.00 to 23.50 "
and Dacca, }
Shanghai and Japanese,22.00 to 24.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,22.00 to 24.00 "
Sales: about.....bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 28th September:—Towards the close of last mail, reports of the total destruction of the cotton districts in Texas by hurricane greatly strengthened holders, and goods were practically withdrawn from the market by asking advance of \$4 to \$5 per bale. Dealers now commenced to operate more largely and responded freely to the enhanced cost; during the interval nearly 13,000 bales have changed hands as specified below. The demand still continues and is purely speculative, as at the moment there is nothing of importance being done in the interior, but the outlook warrants the action of the speculators. Sufficient rain has fallen in the country, and with prospects of good grain crops and suppression of lawlessness and disorder throughout the consuming centres, a brisk winter trade is confidently expected. The offtake during the interval has again exceeded receipts, and our estimate of stock shows a further falling off and now stands at a very reasonable figure.

Local Manufacture.—Sales of 700 bales No. 10s at from \$85 to \$92, of the Hongkong, Spinning W. and Dyeing Mills have been reported.

Japanese eSpinnings.—A strong reaction has also been experienced in the market for this thread and prices have advanced from \$8 to \$7 per bale, but the advance has checked consumption and buyers have bestowed their attention principally on comparative cheaper chops of desirable Bolybay No. 20s. Sales reported are 175 bales Nim 16s, Kanegafuchi at \$99 and 500 bales No. 20s say 100 bales Kanegafuchi at from \$39 to \$98, 300 bales Settau at from \$94 to \$101, and 100 bales Ashai at from \$93 to \$99, market closing strong.

Raw Cotton.—Is looking up, and firmly held all round in sympathy with the market for the manufactured article, and as far as Indian staple is concerned the interval has been blank, the ideas of both sellers and buyers being too wide apart to lead to business. We quote to-day Bengal \$20 to \$24, with about 1500 bales in stock. In China descriptions, some inferior parcels of Ningpo and Shanghai changed hands at from \$21 to \$22 in the beginning of the fortnight, but prices gradually hardened and the market closes firm at \$24; the total reported business, amounting to 1,250 bales at from \$21 to \$24; stock nil.

Exchange on India has continued steady and closes to-day at Rs. 154 for T/T and Rs. 155 for Post. On Shanghai 71 and on Yokohama 1 per cent. discount.

The undernoted business is reported from Shanghai in imported and local spinnings from the 1st to 24th instant, viz:—

Indian.—Total sales 5,421 bales, comprising 2,880 bales of No. 10s., 52 bales of No. 12s., 269 bales of No. 16s., and 2,240 bales of No. 20s., prices showing an advance of one to two Taels and market closing steady. Estimated unsold stock about 34,000 bales.

Japanese.—Total sales about 1,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 71 to 72 for No. 16s. and Tls. 72 to 73 for No. 20s., prices showing an advance of one Tael all round and market closing firm; stock Nil.

Local.—Total sales about 4,500 bales, at Tls. 60 to 63 for No. 10s., Tls. 60 to 64 for No. 12s., Tls. 64 to 66 for No. 14s. and Tls. 66 to 67 for No. 16s., prices showing advance of one to two Taels and market closing strong.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—The upward tendency continues, market being brisk. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.95 to 3.00
" Round, Good quality	3.23 to 3.27
" Long	3.42 to 3.46
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.10 to 3.15
" Garden, " No. 1	3.45 to 3.50
" White	4.20 to 4.25
" Fine Cargo	4.35 to 4.40

COALS.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—Sales of spot Cardiff at equivalent of \$36.00 per ton ex ship. Sales of \$3,400 tons Australian to arrive and small sales of Japanese at quotation:—

Cardiff.....	\$35.00 sellers
Australian \$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal	
Yubari Lump.....	\$11.00 ex godown, nominal
Mitki Lump	8.00 to 8.50 nominal
Moji Lump	\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double } 10.50 ex godown	
screened	
Hongay Lump.....	8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust.....	5.50 "
Briquettes.....	14.50 ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—1,600 bales No. 10 at \$84.50 to \$95, 550 bales No. 12 at \$91 to \$94, 300 bales No. 16 at \$86 to \$100, 1,800 bales No. 20 at \$90 to \$108.—*Grey Shirtings*.—200 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue 2 Fish at \$3.60, 900 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Elephant and Snake at \$3.60, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$2.55, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. 4 Butterflies at \$4.65, 3,500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4.50.—*White Shirtings*.—500 pieces Blue Boys at \$2.65 cash, 600 pieces Black Peach at \$2.70.—*Drill*.—150 pieces 14 lbs. Blue Buffalo at \$4.80.—*Mexican*.—750 pieces 32 inch Red Stag at \$3.00, 600 pieces 36 inch XX at \$3.55, 600 pieces 36 inch VV at \$3.50, 750 pieces 32 inch Gold Dragon at \$2.97.

METALS.—*Quicksilver*.—200 flasks at \$1.62.—*Lead*.—420 piculs, new mark at \$10.20.

COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$78.00 to \$109.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—8 lbs.	2.25 to 2.35
7 lbs.	2.55 to 2.65
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.85
9 to 10 lbs.	3.90 to 4.75
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.65 to 2.85
58 to 60 "	3.40 to 4.20
64 to 66 "	4.50 to 5.55
Fine	5.40 to 8.10
Book-folds.	4.60 to 6.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.80 to 1.65
T-Cloths—61bs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.85 to 2.00
71bs. (32 "), "	2.15 to 2.40
61bs. (32 "), Mexs.	2.05 to 3.80
71bs. (32 "), "	2.65 to 3.05
8 to 8.4 oz., (30 in.)	3.00 to 2.80
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.40 to 7.30

FANCY COTTONS—	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs.	1.55 to 5.00
Brocades—Dyed	— to —

Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.17
Vivetees—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.60
Velveteens—18 in.	0.20 to 0.22
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.35 to 2.50	
WOOLENS—	
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops 0.80 to 1.50	
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 2.50	
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.40 to 10.00
Assorted.....	6.50 to 10.10
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 8.00 to 20.00	
Assorted }	
Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 18.00

METALS—	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.80 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 4.80 to —	
Swedish Bar	7.00 to —
Small Round Rod	5.25 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.	5.50 to —
Wire 5/25	8.50 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 10.25 to —	
Australian	10.20 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 37.00 to —	
Vivian's 14/20 oz. 37.00 to —	
Elliot's 14/20 oz. 37.00 to —	
Composition Nails	65.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	40.00 to —
Tin	81.00 to —

Tin-Plates	7.25 to —
Steel 1/2 to 1	6.50 to —

SUNDRIES—	per picul
Quicksilver	162.00 to —
Window Glass.....	5.30 to —
Kerosene Oil	2.55 to —

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 28th September.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 2/1 1/2	
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.60
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.65
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.12
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	50
Credits, 60 days' sight	51
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	154
Bank, on demand	155
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	154
Bank, on demand	155
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	72
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1 1/2 p.c. dis.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	124
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.65
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	51
BAR SILVER, per oz.	29 1/2

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—Business during the week has been quiet and more or less interfered with by the Jewish New Year's holidays. Rates have ruled very steady and there are no changes of any importance to report. The Union Insurance Society's report recommends a dividend of \$20 per share, placing \$65,000 to reserve and carrying forward about \$287,000. It also recommends a bonus of \$32,000 to the staff.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks in the early part of the week changed hands at 312 and 311 per cent. premium in small lots. At time of writing shares are obtainable at 312 with buyers at 311. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions, after the issue of the report, advanced to \$265 without bringing shares on the market. Cantons have also improved \$5 and are now wanted at \$135. China Traders continue on offer at \$57 without business. Straits and the Northern Insurances continue neglected. Rates for the latter are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars in the absence of local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas continue neglected with sellers and only small sales at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled steady with fair sales at \$31, closing with probable buyers at that rate. Indos continue in demand at \$85 and \$86, but few shares have changed hands. On time sales have been effected at \$92 and \$93 for March next. Douglasses have been placed at \$40 in small lots, closing with buyers at that rate. China Manilas and China Mutuals unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms remain very dull at \$34 with no sales to report. Jebebus have been on offer during the week at \$84 without inducing sales. Caledonians and Olivers have changed hands in small lots at quotations. Raubs have been placed at \$54, closing steady at that rate. Charbonnages continue in demand at \$250 but no shares are obtainable.

REFINERIES.—Both China Sugars and Luzons continue neglected at quotations with no business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been negotiated in fair lots at 545 per cent. premium cash. Kowloon Wharves at \$85 and \$86 for old, and \$56 and \$57 for new, the latter closing in demand at \$58. Wanchais continue in demand without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled firm at \$179, and a fair business has been transacted at that rate, market closing firm with buyers at \$179, and apparently no sellers. West Points have ruled very quiet at \$51½ with only a small business to report. Humphreys have changed hands at \$10½, \$11 and \$11½, closing rather weaker again at \$11 with sellers.

COTTONS.—Hongkongs have been on offer at \$10 without inducing buyers to come forward. At an informal meeting of shareholders of this Company held on the 24th instant, a resolution was carried unanimously empowering the General Managers to accept a mortgage on the property for the amount of their loan and to offer preference shares to the extent of \$300,000, first to the present shareholders, and then to the public. A special meeting will be shortly called to discuss this resolution. In the absence of local business quotation for the northern mills are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed at \$20 cash and at \$21 for December. Watsons at \$15½ and China Borneos at \$30. Watkins are enquired for at \$10 and China Providents at \$9½.

MEMOS.—Douglas Steamship Company's Meeting (ordinary) on the 29th instant. Union Insurance Society's Meeting (ordinary) on the 11th October. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves Company's Call of \$25, on new issue payable on 29th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[5513], buyers
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	111 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$28, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$28, buyers
Foun. Shares...	28	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	21	\$1½, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9.50, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$110, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Fls. 100	Fls. 50.
International	Fls. 100	Fls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow	Fls. 100	Fls. 50.
Soychee	Fls. 500	Fls. 375.
Yahloong	Fls. 100	Fls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$10, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$8, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$48, buyers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$20, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$118.
Hongkong Electric {	\$10	\$10½, sellers
	\$10	\$2, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$120, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$168, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$85, bys., \$58, bys.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	545 p. ct. prem.
Insurance—		[\$808½]
Canton	\$50	\$135, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$77, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$57, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$294, buyers
North-China	225	Fls. 165.
Straits	\$20	\$1.
Union	\$50	\$285, buyers
Yangtze	\$80	\$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$179, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$11, sellers
Kowloon Land & B....	\$30	\$25½, sales & buys.
West Point Building	\$50	\$51½, sales
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$36.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$250, buyers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	15 cents, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents
Jebebu	\$5	\$8½, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd....	25c.	\$10 cents, sellers
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	\$2½, sales & sellers.
Do. B....	\$4½	\$2, sellers
Punjom	\$8	\$3½, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	80, cents, sellers
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$54, sales
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$204, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	(\$65, old sellers
China Mutual Prof.	210	\$28, sellers
China Ordinary	210	211, buyers
Do.	25	210 10s., s. & byes.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	25 5s., buyers
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$40, sales & buys.
Indo-China S. N.	210	\$31, buyers
Shell Transport and } Trading Co. }	2100	\$86, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$18, sales
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$4½, sales
Do.	\$3	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	\$60, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$10, sales & buys.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15½, sales & sells.
Universal Trading } Co., Ltd. }	\$5	\$5½, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 28th September.—There has been a better demand for tonnage during the past fortnight, and rates are firmer. Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul has been paid; to Philippines, 34 cents per picul. Bangkok to Hongkong, steamers are wanted at 25 and 30 cents per picul. Java to this, 32½ cents per picul is offered. Coal freights are firm. Moji to Hongkong, \$3 per ton; to Singapore, \$4.25 per ton. Mororan to Singapore, \$5.50 per ton.

The following are the settlements:—

Tiger—Norwegian steamer, 2,116 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.80 per ton.
Chiang—British steamer, 1,459 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.80 per ton.

Sikh—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$4.25 per ton.
Benevus—British steamer, 1,468 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$4.25 per ton.
Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,510 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$4 per ton.
Claverdon—British steamer, 2,067 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$4 per ton.
Benvorlich—British steamer, 2,161 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$4.25 per ton.
Tetartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 34 cents per picul.
Shantung—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 34 cents per picul.
Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.
Taicheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.
Nanyang—German steamer, 1,000 tons, hence to Haiphong and back, \$275 per day.
Nanyang—German steamer, 1,000 tons, hence to Vladivostok, \$8,500 in full.
Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,519 tons, three ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 82½ cents per picul.
Decima—German steamer, 704 tons, hence to Haiphong and back, \$290 per day.
Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, hence to Mauritius and back, \$8,000 per month.
Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, monthly, 3 months, private terms.
Ragnar—Norwegian steamer, 1,220 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$9,500 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Clyde (str.), Alcious (str.), Malacca (str.), Idomenus (str.), Patroclus (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Bingo Maru (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Indus (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Hamburg (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Königsberg (str.), Sarnia (str.), Bamberg (str.), Sarnia (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Queen Adelaide (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—Empress of China (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Doric (str.), Hongkong Maru (str.), China (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Sachem (str.), Maria de Larrinaga (str.), Astoria (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIA.—Shinano Maru (str.), Yawata Maru (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Catherine Apcar (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—Malpomena (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—

ARRIVALS.

21, Sangkiang, British str., from Manila.
21, Bamberg, German str., from Hamburg.
22, Faltala, British transport, from Woosang.
22, Upada, British transport, from Taku.
22, Kalgan, British str., from Moji.
22, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
22, Fitzclarence, British str., from Barry.
23, Nevassa, British transport, from Calcutta.
23, Australian, British str., from Kobe.
23, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
23, Glancus, British str., from Shanghai.
23, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
23, Ekgaspi, Amr. str., from Iloilo.
23, Feluse, British str., from Swatow.
23, Salasie, French str., from Shanghai.
23, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
23, Taishun, Amr. str., from Haiphong.
23, Umta, British transport, from Calcutta.
23, Benj. Seftall, Amr. ship, from Fremantle.
23, Benclutha, British str., from Canton.
23, Redpole, British gunboat, from Canton.
24, Chasseloup Laubat, Fr. cr., from Saigon.
24, Rajah, British transport, from Calcutta.
24, Taiyuan, Amr. str., from Yokohama.
24, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
24, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
24, Charterhouse, British str., from Singapore.
24, Cymbeline, British str., from New York.
24, Nanchang, British str., from Samarang.
24, Gera, German transport, from Singapore.
24, No. 90, German torpedo-boat, from Spore.
24, No. 91, German torpedo-boat, from Spore.
24, No. 92, German torpedo-boat, from Spore.
24, Feiching, British str., from Haiphong.
25, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
25, Halloong, British str., from Swatow.
25, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
25, Lyeemoon, German str., from Moji.

25, Redpole, British gunboat, from Practice.
 25, Daphne, German str., from Swatow.
 25, Elm Branch, British str., from Karatsu.
 25, Ioyal, German str., from Bangkok.
 25, Mar's Jehzen, German str., from Java.
 26, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 26, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
 26, Nuen Fung, German str., from Saigon.
 26, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
 26, Gloucester City, British str., from Java.
 23, Vadala, British transport, from Calcutta.
 26, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., from S. F. cisco.
 23, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 26, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 26, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
 26, Amara, British str., from Samarang.
 26, Hakata Maru, Jap. str., from Antwerp.
 27, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
 27, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 27, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 27, Clyde, British str., from Shanghai.
 27, Malta, British str., from Bombay.
 27, Chwnshan, British str., from Koh-si-chang.
 28, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Chongtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Hoihao, French str., from Hoihow.
 28, Pronto, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Muttra, British transport, from Taku.

September— DEPARTURES.

22, Caledonien, French transport, for Taku.
 22, Glenesk, British str., for London.
 22, Chingtu, British str., for Taku.
 22, Brand, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 22, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 22, Glenogle, British str., for Tasoma.
 22, Toonan, Amr. str., for Swatow.
 22, Hinsang, British str., for Hongay.
 22, Macedonia, British str., for Moji.
 22, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 22, Diamante, British str., for Amoy.
 22, Chunsang, British str., for Singapore.
 22, Benledi, British str., for Calcutta.
 22, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 23, Idomeneus, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 23, Upada, British transport, for Calcutta.
 23, Fultala, British transport, for Calcutta.
 23, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 23, Nanyang, German str., for Haiphong.
 24, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 24, Recina, Austrian str., for Java.
 24, Redpole, British gunboat, for Practice.
 24, Bombay, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 25, Tamsui, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Peluse, British str., for Amoy.
 25, Taiyuan, Amr. str., for Sydney.
 25, Glaucus, British str., for London.
 25, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Benclutha, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 25, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 26, Empress of Japan, British str., for V. couver.
 26, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.
 26, Progress, German str., for Touron.
 26, Bamberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 26, Taihuan, Amr. str., for Haiphong.
 26, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 26, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Takasang, British str., for Swatow.
 26, P. C. Klao, German str., for Bangkok.
 26, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 26, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 26, Hermes, Norw. str., for Canton.
 26, Penarth, British str., for New Zealand.
 27, Gaelic, British str., for San Francisco.
 27, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 27, Australian, British str., for Sydney.
 27, Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Feiching, British str., for Haiphong.
 27, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Amara, British str., for Kobe.
 27, Skarpsno, Norw. str., for Moji.
 28, Hakata Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 28, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Peter Rickmers, German sh., for Portland.
 28, Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
 28, Fushun, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., for Sydney.
 28, Nevada, British transport, for Taku.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Fushun*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Lowe, Mr. S. H. Jenkinson and Mr. Ruston.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Shindtor, Capt. Cobban, Capt. Raymond, and 301 Chinese.

Per *Catherine Apar*, from Calcutta, Mr. E. M. Bishop, Mr. Ballin, Mrs. Lewis and child, Mr. Murray, Mr. and Madam E. D. Lagreze and child, Mr. Silas and son, Mr. E. Fish, Mrs. Kelly and three daughters and 626 Chinese.

Per *Fultala*, from Woosung, Mr. Q. W. Sutton, R.N.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Andrus, Nicholle, Lucargin and 130 Chinese.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Dudy, Messrs. Taber, J. Kolb, W. O'Brien and H. Smith.

Per *Hikosan Maru*, from Kutchinotzu, Mr. John Blake.

Per *T. Alex*, from Swatow, Mr. Clauson.

Per *Legazpi*, from Iloilo, Mrs. Veasey.

Per *Australian*, from Koba, Mrs. Devenish and three children.

Per *Pevasa*, from Calcutta, Major Turner, R.A., Major Daley, R.A.M.C., Capt. Knapton, I.M.S., Capt. Hayes, R.A.M.C., Capt. Howrie, A.C.G., Capt. Burns, I.S.M.D., Lieut. Swinhoe, D.A.C.G., Lieut. Craig, C.F.D., Lieut. Durrell, O.D.

Per *Salazie*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. Richserno, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marino and daughter, Messrs. Rodriguez, J. and G. Apar and Kenny; from Nagasaki, Mr. J. H. Means; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Smith and infant, Messrs. Craven, Gordon Smith, Lyons, Rers. Galibert, Raison, Bang, Hennery, Benezet, Le Garrec and Vegrac, Miss Young, Miss Coleman, Miss Harris, Miss K. Fleming, Miss H. Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. Burgers and two children, and Mr. Robbins; for Saigon, from Nagasaki, Mrs. Sava Simizu; from Shanghai, Mr. Raquer, Mrs. Fang and infant, Messrs. Bidon and Bolloque; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Mr. A. Shibya; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Mageti, Mrs. Midukawa, Mrs. Mito Miyake and Mrs. Shaku; from Shanghai, Mrs. Rockman; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Mr. Cumming; for Suez, from Shanghai, Mr. Haut; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Messrs. Aregi Ota and Freglown; from Kobe, Mrs. Gysin, daughter and son, Messrs. Madon and Owen and Miss Nizushima; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Diercy and Bregy; from Shanghai, Mrs. Piry and four children, Messrs. Roussen, Aguilino, Carle Giocotte, Prot, de Greter, Cocague, Thomas, David, Madoalet, Bigot and Daverdin.

Per *Rajah*, from Calcutta, &c., Captains Jackson, Quin and Oakes; Lieutenants Branson and Colson, Second-Lieut. Manson and Lieut. Beasley.

Per *Taiyuan*, from Yokohama, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. Hebbing and Mr. Erickson.

Per *Hailoong*, from Swatow, Messrs. Zollner and Wilks.

Per *Lyceomon*, from Moji, Mr. and Mrs. Lampert, Messrs. Muhle and Garden.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Rev. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Miss Mitchell, Mr. E. Baner, Capt. Walker, Mr. F. von Oerhzen, Mrs. Yamamoto and Capt. White.

Per *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Miss Ida Ellis, Rev. W. E. de Claybrook, Mr. Arthur Macondray, Mrs. Macondray, Mrs. E. P. Wolf, Messrs. S. Togo, Fred. E. Kelly, Wm. Lord, S. Komor, Y. Yenam and W. S. Culver.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Messrs. Isidora Saez, R. Grant, Domingo La Prieta, F. R. Paz de Leon, Mrs. Resenfelt, Mr. A. McGilluly and Mr. J. Murphy.

Per *Hakata Maru*, from Antwerp, &c., Mrs. Stephen and child, Mr. Lankester, Capt. Cocker, Messrs. Butler and Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Solomon, Rev. and Mrs. Morgan and two children, Messrs. Partridge, Larkins, Bennett, Jackson, Scott and Martin.

Per *Clyde*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mr. J. H. Rodier, Gunner B. P. Middleton, Messrs. J. C. Mortensen, J. C. Pinna, H. Kotwal, Whitang, Kolster, A. Le Conte, J. Cannon, A. R. Lowe, E. Ogilvie, H. Shen, A. MacDonald, G. Adams, G. Wilton, Frank Marriott and J. Peak; for Bombay, Mr. A. H. Heath; for Marseilles, Sir John Lister Kaye; for Brindisi, Rev. J. Jeronias; for London, Mr. and Master Taylor and infant, Miss and Master Hunt, Rev. A. Holland, Rev. and Mrs. H. J. Squire, two children and one infant, Miss M. J. Williams, Miss H. Johansen and Mr. F. C. Leonard.

Per *Malta*, for Hongkong, from London, Miss Graham, Mr. Johnson, Sergt. Major Presley, Privts. Campbell and Harris and Mr. Wilson; from Gibraltar, Mr. Carvello; from Marseilles, Comdr. Hickley, Lieut. Litchfield, Capt. Pottinger, Mr. Lockhart and Comdr. Dampier; from Bombay, Mr. Dassabhoj; from Singapore, Messrs. Pountney and Howgill and Miss Condict; for Manila, from London, Mr. Yuill; for Shanghai, from London, Mrs. and Miss Blackburn; from Marseilles, Mrs. Hill, infant and child, Messrs. Eckford, Smith, Hammond, Hunter, Mrs. Robertson and infant, Miss Jameson, Mrs. Wall, Messrs. Brennan, Cumming and Hall; from Port Said, Lieut. Russel; from Colombo, Capt. Aberbourne.

DEPARTED.

Per *Shanghai*, for London, from Shanghai, Mrs. Dean and family.

Per *Preussen*, from Japan, for Genoa, Lieut. Lustig, Lieut. Pfeiffer, Prof. O. Inagaki, Prof. I. Hago, Drs. T. Fuyishiro, Nataume, Tatsuka and J. Ingles; for London, Mrs. M. Nott, Miss Lister, Messrs. R. W. Esser and W. Fuller; for Hamburg, Mr. M. G. Ernecke; from Shanghai, for Genoa, Messrs. Th. Goerst, E. Siebert and W. Johanssen; for London, Misses J. M. Williams, H. Davis, E. Higga, E. French and Gates, Rev. and Mrs. Knipe and child, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Dr. Wilson and family, Messrs. Simonds, Beach, Sunderland, Mrs. Miles and children, Dr. and Mrs. Tixley and child; for Southampton, Mr. John Davis; for Antwerp, Mr. W. de Laet; for Hamburg, Messrs. A. W. Lunquist, Harmsen, P. Pruss, M. Pruss, H. Abraham, E. Sassen, E. Weidemann, Mr. and Mrs. Petersen and child, Mr. and Mrs. Klein; from Foochow, for Genoa, Misses Boilean, Brooks, Thomas, Andrews and Harrison; from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mrs. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac; for Colombo, Mr. K. R. Hathinarai; for Genoa, Messrs. R. Lenau, F. Ebbecke, Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. J. Leonhardt and two children; for London, Miss Dapping Hepenstal, Messrs. A. Jones and J. Pender; for Southampton, Mr. John Lowe; for Hamburg, Messrs. E. Foerster and N. Clemensen.

Per *Menmuir*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Dr. F. A. Dale, Miss Rush, Messrs. Karl Ziegler, Jr., E. Fahrlander, R. M. Collins, Claudio Lopes, T. Thakurdass, T. Moolchand, V. Asandass and D. Wadoomal.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Mrs. L. Suffet, Mrs. W. G. Wells, Messrs. C. J. Andruss and T. Apellaniz.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Carter; for Singapore, Mr. J. Webster, for Marseilles, Capt. and Mrs. Carmona and three children, Messrs. Arthur Julio Roza and Decoux.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. R. Ch. Guernier and J. Kato, Mrs. G. Nielsen and infant, Mrs. Iburg, Mr. B. Hayata, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Mehta, Miss Mehta and Miss Pejoja Mehta; for Kobe, Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. and Mrs. W. Brainne; for Yokohama, Mr. D. Ramandas and servant, Mr. G. Ramandas and servant, Mr. Ed. Fisk, Mr. E. E. Forrest, Mr. and Mrs. Peacock, Mr. W. T. Marlow, Mr. A. Reid, Mr. and Mrs. A. Turner, Mr. W. A. Cruickshank, Mr. H. F. R. Brayne, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Moxon, Mr. J. W. Richardson and Mr. F. F. Eca da Silva; for Victoria, Mr. A. R. Greig; for Vancouver, Rt. Rev. Bishop Courtenay and Rt. Rev. Archdeacon Kaulbach; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Auckland, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Doody; for Chicago, Mrs. Ruth M. Thomson and child; for New York, Miss Fanny Bartaby; for Boston, Mr. J. C. S. Taber; for London, Mr. Otto Sing; for London, from Kobe, Mr. E. Sloper; from Yokohama, Dr. B. Roberts and Miss F. E. Roberts; from Shanghai, Mr. E. K. Charrington and Mrs. A. M. Macdonald.

Per *Gaelic*, for Shanghai, Miss G. Glenney, Mrs. A. Clark and Mr. G. H. Phillips; for Yokohama, Mrs. F. Parsons; for San Francisco, Mr. J. G. Judson, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Jones, Messrs. J. A. Bennett and E. M. Lightner; for St. John, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Morgan, Master Clyde Morgan and Miss Maizie Morgan; for Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. L. I. Salomon.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 9, Praya Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.